

# s&p literary

Publishing Division of Sosia&Pistoia



**RIGHTS LIST** SPRING 2026

**NEW  
RELEASES**

# LUCA BIANCHINI

## THE GIRLS OF TUNIS

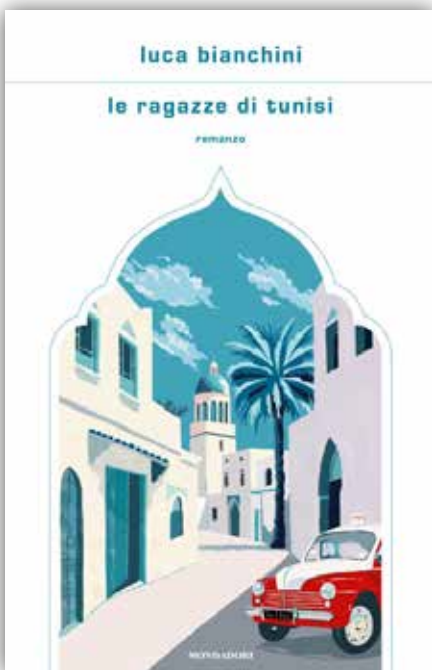
**Who was she? Was she Sicilian? Italian? French? Truly, she felt like a Tunis girl.**

**T**he Brancata family is one of many Sicilian families who moved to Tunisia in search of their own “America.” They did not always find wealth, but they lived in peaceful coexistence with the French authorities, Tunisians, Jews, and Maltese. In this cosmopolitan world, Maria — thirty-eight, beautiful, proud, and determined — watches her three teenage daughters grow up. She raises them mostly on her own, as her husband works in the countryside and is often away. To cope with financial hardship, Maria takes in small sewing jobs at home in the Borgel district, in a ground-floor apartment overlooking a courtyard where everyone knows one another. A discreet widower upstairs courts her gently, but Maria’s focus is on her daughters, especially Anna, the eldest. At sixteen, Anna loves books and gazing at ships on the horizon. Thanks to Uncle Jojo — a charming rogue who pays for her schooling — she attends one of the best schools in Tunis. Love still feels distant to her, until her French friend Marinette introduces her to cinema, elegant dresses, and walks along Avenue de France. Her sisters are always nearby: Vitina, devoted to singing and gymnastics, and Pupetta, the family’s sharp-tongued “cricket.” Around them, Tunis vibrates in a time suspended between hope and farewell. After independence, many sense that departures are near. Yet this fear of change sparks new beginnings, revealing secrets in a lively microcosm of quarrelsome uncles, nosy neighbors, endless couscous, and anxious evenings before the television.

***“I didn’t fully understand my mother’s family history until I started asking her questions.”***

**LUCA BIANCHINI**

**LUCA BIANCHINI** was born in Turin on February 11, 1970. He still writes his stories in the kitchen, though he has yet to master his mother’s frying skills. Since 2003, Mondadori has published all his books, including *Instant Love*, *Ti seguo ogni notte* (2004), *Eros - Lo giuro* (2005), *Se domani farà bel tempo* (2007), *Siamo solo amici* (2011), and *Io che amo solo te* and *La cena di Natale* (2013), both later adapted into box-office hits. Recent titles include *Dimmi che credi al destino* (2016), *Nessuno come noi* (2017), *So che un giorno tornerai* (2018), *Baci da Polignano* (2020), *Le mogli hanno sempre ragione* (2022), and *Il cuore è uno zingaro* (2024), *Le ragazze di Tunisi* (2026) is his latest novel.



**Mondadori**

**February, 2026**

**264 pages**

**SINCE ITS RELEASE,  
ALWAYS AT THE TOP OF THE  
BESTSELLERS CHARTS**

***A bestselling author,  
with hundreds of  
thousands copies sold  
and successful movie  
adaptations***

### **PREVIOUS TITLES SOLD TO:**

Spain (RHM)  
Germany  
(Ullstein, Berlin Verlag,  
Blanvalet)  
Russia (Mir Knigi)  
Brazil (Bertrand)  
Bulgaria (Ciela)  
Serbia (Alnari)

**s&pliterary**

**FICTION**

# GIUSEPPE CERASA SICILIAN CURTAIN

**Stories of women, passions, secrets, mafia and unsung heroes.**

**T**his volume aims to be a sequence of very of ten unpublished passions and memories. Here intertwine unseen or unheard stories, part of a heritage of emotions that spans almost 70 years of Italian events: worlds that light up and certainties that go out. And the narrative unfolds through loves, passions, indispensable rituals, unspeakable violence, trampled rights, revolutionary glimmers, literary stories not always written and yet told with strength and lyricism. Hopes and violence alternate in these pages, life and death, light and mourning, as the history of Sicily has taught us in these years, often inspiring and anticipating scenarios that have established themselves between two centuries in the world. And which are told here, turning the starting angle upside down, illuminating the small things, like an intimate novel.



**Nino Aragno**

**January, 2025**

**180 pages**

***“With Sicilian Curtain the author describes memories and characters in a novel between coming-of-age story and journalism.”***

**FRANCESCO MERLO,  
LA REPUBBLICA**

***“A memoir that manages to be powerful and at the same time delicate, profound and light, local and universal, demonstrating what Goethe stated in the phrase chosen by the author as an epigraph: “Italy without Sicily leaves no image in the soul: here is the key to everything.” Sicilian Curtain is also a vibrant act of love for one’s land that overcomes the anguish for what afflicts it, starting with the mafia, sometimes tinged with bitter irony and other times with pride.”***

**ANTONIO MONDA**

**GIUSEPPE CERASA** is an Italian author and has always loved telling the life, mysteries and beauties of his Sicily and of marvellous Italy. He collaborated with the *Giornale di Sicilia*, *L’Ora di Palermo* until he joined *la Repubblica*, where he led, for 18 years, the Rome news section of the newspaper founded and directed by Eugenio Scalfari, after a long experience at the top of national news. In 2018, he was awarded an honorary degree in Journalism and Multimedia Communication by La Sapienza University of Rome. This is his first, surprising, literary work.

**s&pliterary**

**FICTION**

# SERENA DANDINI

## THERE WAS THE MOON

The sentimental and political education of a teenager in the second half of the Sixties, between parties and protests, laughter and tears, daring dreams and dramatic awakenings. A novel that draws you into the magic and mystery of youth.

**R**ome, 1967. Sara Mei is tired of being a child. The in-between land of middle school, where she has just arrived, is no longer enough for her. Her gaze points straight to the upper floors of the school, where the high school classes are. What fascinates her most is a group of bold girls, carriers of a femininity she did not yet know: a femininity that was not reassuring. One of them has a brother, Saverio. He is handsome, cultured, committed: impossible not to fall in love with him, even if he always seems lost in immense thoughts, or suspended between the notes of his piano. Courageous, full of irony, Sara throws herself without a safety net into the whirlwind of change that sweeps through society. She moves constantly from discos to film clubs, from the first awkward experiences with boys to family conflicts, she suffers and rejoices together with her friends. She lives an unrepeatably season, entertains, has fun, blossoms. And 1969 arrives. An incredible year, 1969. For the world it is the year of the moon landing, for Sara the year in which she discovers herself as grown up, for a generation, hers, the year in which illusions crumble in the roar of a bomb: the one in Piazza Fontana, in Milan, which opens the season of terrorism.

***“We wanted to be reckless and free to make mistakes, yes, especially to make mistakes.”***

**SERENA DANDINI** a very eclectic writer, she also contributes to magazines, TV and radio. Her debut as an author, *Dai diamanti non nasce niente*, received critical and public acclaim. In later years, she published *Grazie per quella volta*, *Ferite a morte* (a collection of monologues against femicide), *Avremo sempre Parigi* (published in German by Random House DE) and *Il futuro di una volta*. All her backlist titles have been published by Rizzoli. Her latest titles, *Catalogo delle donne valorose* (Mondadori, 2018) *La vasca del Fuhrer* (Einaudi, 2020), *La vendetta delle Muse* (HarperCollins Italia, 2023) sold more than 70.000 copies.



Einaudi

March, 2025

206 pages

More than  
**50.000** copies sold

Optioned by *Cattleya*  
to become a film

In the bestsellers list for  
*two consecutive months*

### BACKLIST TITLES SOLD TO:

France (Presses Universitaires du Midi - PUM)  
Germany (Random House)

ENGLISH EXCERPT AVAILABLE

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FICTION

# GIUSEPPE DI PIAZZA

## YELLOW LIKE SULFUR

### LEO SALINAS AT THE AEOLIAN ISLANDS

**A new investigation for Leo Salinas at the Aeolian Islands, a land of light and shadow.**

**F**ive years after his last case, investigative journalist Leo Salinas returns in a new adventure, this time rooted in an old and forgotten murder on a wild, timeless island.

On the black shores of Vulcano, Leo Salinas stumbles upon a lifeless body, recognizing the face lying down in the sand. He had come here on holiday, seeking a few quiet days from the chaos of Palermo. Instead, he finds the corpse of a new friend made during the holiday: a charming young Scotsman who seemed to be harboring a secret.

Little does he know that this discovery will lead him into another time, amidst the shadows of a bloody event from the late 1800s, when the island had been purchased by a wealthy and eccentric Scotsman.

Two timelines intertwine: in the present, Leo Salinas struggles to piece together dusty clues and unreliable testimonies, while the past reveals an ancient world of intrigue and irresistible obsession.

Giuseppe Di Piazza brings back his most iconic protagonist, “Sleepyhead,” the young crime reporter who comes home every night with blood on his shoes, inviting us to cast a gaze upon the past, before time erases all traces.

***“I saw this island and I knew: she belonged to me, and I to her. With her vile stench and her devilish colors, with the rocks that tore at the feet until they were stained with blood. The harshest, and yet the most tender island I had ever known.”***

**GIUSEPPE DI PIAZZA** is a journalist, photographer and writer from Palermo. He has headed various national magazines and currently works for *Corriere della Sera*. With HarperCollins, he has published the Leo Salinas investigative series, including *Malanottata* (winner of the 2019 Cortina Prize), *Il movente della vittima* (2019), and *I cinque canti di Palermo* (2020), as well as the novels *L'arte di non amare* (2021) and *O tu o lui* (2022).



HarperCollins Italia

May, 2026

304 pages

***“The protagonist, Leo Solinas, a restless and enterprising reporter, is a sort of alter ego of the author in his youth”***

GIORNALE DI SICILIA

#### BACKLIST TITLES SOLD TO:

France (HarperCollins)  
Serbia (Kamelia)  
USA (Other Press)

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FICTION



Accento

July, 2025

256 pages

**FOR THE READERS OF  
NICK HORNBY  
AND  
AUGUSTIN BURROUGHS**

***“A ruthless and ironic novel that delves into toxic relationships and bourgeois hypocrisy. A sharp, satirical, and gripping debut.”***

**GRAZIA**

# GIULIO SOMAZZI MY PERSONAL IDEA OF HELL

**You can't just be a writer – that would be dreadful. You need to find a job first.**

**D**amiano Rodetti has had a complicated morning. He was supposed to interview French film star Isabelle Huppert in a luxurious hotel in the centre of Rome, but the actress was running late, and he couldn't get Lidia out of his mind, the girl who has obsessed him for years and who had resurfaced the previous night after a long disappearance.

Damiano doesn't know it yet, but this day will mark a turning point in his life. The sudden death of a family friend will force him to confront the morbid web of relationships upon which his parents have built their lives, relationships that cast long, damaging shadows over his own childhood and adolescence.

In his literary debut Giulio Somazzi masterfully blends sarcasm and social critique in a novel that whirls with invention, featuring wise actresses and unmoored journalists, immature adults and victimized children, countryside villas that become stages for tangled public affairs, and lavish terraces in the heart of the capital.

Structured in three sweeping movements (a hotel, a funeral, a party), *My Personal Idea of Hell* offers a sweeping portrait of contemporary Rome, its families, its rituals, its secrets, and its faintly ridiculous embarrassments.

***“This book has it all. Starting with a Rome full of chaos and entropy, portrayed with skill and finesse in one of the most interesting books of this summer.”***

**WIRED**

**GIULIO SOMAZZI** was born in Rome in 1981. He failed three years of high school and prepared for three philosophy exams without taking a single one. He works as a screenwriter and as a writer for television and radio (*Una pezza di Lundini*, *Radio2 Social Club*, *La conferenza stampa*). *My Personal Idea of Hell* is his debut novel.

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**FICTION**



Rizzoli
April, 2026
160 pages

**SCIENTIFIC  
AMERICAN MAGAZINE  
INCLUDED CAPUA  
IN ITS LIST OF THE  
50 MOST INFLUENTIAL  
SCIENTISTS IN THE WORLD**

**“Revolutionary Mind”  
SEED MAGAZINE**

# ILARIA CAPUA DON'T GIVE UP

**A HANDBOOK ON RESISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION  
FOR WOMEN**

**W**ho do you think you are? Rita Levi Montalcini?»

«You can get this job by two ways: you either deliver votes to my party, or you show me a little affection, you know, a certain type of “feminine attention.”

These are only two examples of the countless uncalled-for, demeaning, and toxic remarks that female researchers endure through-out their careers, which ensures that academic power firmly remains in the grip of men.

Through the recalling of real, often unpleasant, stories, Ilaria Capua, a world-famous scientist, shares her way to fight against structural and cultural obstacles to women’s carriers: the glass ceiling, harassment, casual sexism, nepotism, job insecurity, and the constant scrutiny of motherhood and the female body. These obstacles are not confined to the laboratory, but they permeate every sphere of professional and private life.

*Don't Give Up* is a handbook for civil resistance dedicated to all women and minorities navigating environments pestered by inequality, stereotypes, and the abuse of power.

It calls to recognize the dynamics of exclusion and to persevere. To this end, Ilaria Capua has designed a resisto-sphere: a core of practical virtues such as resilience, willpower, resourcefulness, curiosity, discernment, self-confidence, and tolerance – which comes in handy to avoid internalizing the abuse suffered as a personal failing.

**ILARIA CAPUA** is a world-renowned virologist and scientist. After directing the One Health Center of Excellence at the University of Florida, she returned to Italy, where she now teaches at Johns Hopkins University SAIS Europe. She is also a regular columnist for *Corriere della Sera*. Her published works include *Io, trafficante di virus* (Virus Dealer, Rizzoli, 2017), *Il dopo* (The aftermath, Mondadori, 2020), and *Le parole della salute circolare* (From one Health to Circular Health, Aboca, 2023).

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**NONFICTION**



Editore UTET

March, 2026

208 pages

**Reality, n. [from Late Latin *realitas*, -atis, derived from *realis*, "real"] A configuration temporarily made concrete from a field of possibilities. For centuries believed to be a continent, it has revealed itself to be an island.**

## ANDREA COLAMEDICI THE ARCHIPELAGO OF REALITY

**If, with AI, seeing now essentially means generating, the only possible resistance is to take back control of our imagination.**

**W**e live in a time in which reality has stopped being a solid continent, an univocal, granite-like entity, and has become a fragile, scattered archipelago. If once we could argue about what was true while still sharing the same world, today polarization has given way to fragmentation: we inhabit different "realities," tailored by algorithms that anticipate our desires and smooth away friction.

In this visionary essay Andrea Colamedici maps post-reality: a condition in which generative AI does not simply produce content, but pre-shapes the very field of what is thinkable and doable. Blending the philosophy of technology, anthropology, and digital culture, from Vilém Flusser to Carlos Castaneda, from the Facebook Papers to memetic phenomena such as Italian Brainrot, he reveals the mechanisms of an invisible power, hypnocracy, operating upstream of consciousness.

The author urges us to stay with the present and defend latent space. If AI feeds on collective labor to privatize the imagination, the response cannot be nostalgia, but a new right: the right to surprise and to opacity, protecting the shared cognitive commons from which our thoughts emerge. The book is also a call to action: to recognize how recommendation systems and synthetic media steer attention, emotion, and belief, and to rebuild spaces where uncertainty, dissent, and genuine encounter can survive.

**ANDREA COLAMEDICI** (Rome, 1987) is a philosopher, publisher, and writer. He teaches Prompt Thinking at IED Rome and at 24Ore Business School, and serves as President of Genia Lab, an interdisciplinary hub on artificial intelligence at the Academy of Arts and New Technologies in Rome. His books include *The Society of Performance* (2018), *The Dawn of the New Gods* (2021), and *The Algorithm of Babel* (2024). In 2025 he conceived the philosophical experiment of Jianwei Xun, author of *Hypnocracy* (Sutherland House, 2025) and *Prompt Thinking* (Polity Press, 2026), both written in collaboration with AI systems.

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NONFICTION

# COSTANTINO D'ORAZIO

## A CHALLENGE FOR BEAUTY

### BERNINI VS BORROMINI

**Two geniuses, one city, a century of wonder. The real story of two masters, beyond the myths and legends that paint them as mortal enemies.**

**R**ome, 17th century: two geniuses, two different visions, and a single city as the stage of their rivalry, yet also of their similarities. Through wondrous and unexpected works, Gian Lorenzo Bernini and Francesco Borromini fueled Baroque's metamorphic spirit, embodying its two opposing yet deeply intertwined faces. Their contest plays out not only through vastly different personalities (while Bernini was cheerful and friendly, Borromini was troubled and introverted) but it also translated into the opposing shapes that characterized their art: the circle and square for Bernini, the oval and triangle for Borromini. Their conflict is further reflected in their choices for proportions: forever grandiose for Bernini, intimate for Borromini. From Palazzo Barberini staircases to San Carlino and Sant'Andrea churches, from St. Peter's baldachin to Piazza Navona's masterpieces, this book takes the reader on a journey through immortal works and archival documents, historical truths, legends, and fascinating popular tales. Every page unveils a strive for something impossible: a challenge beyond human limits, the creation of spaces that deceive the senses, perhaps to reveal more profound truths. Like directors on the world's stage, Bernini and Borromini enact the great Baroque illusion: art as the reflection of the soul.



Il Mulino

November, 2025

224 pages

***“Thanks to them,  
the world is a stage  
and everything becomes  
artifice”***

***“The Two Souls for the Dream of the Baroque”***

**IL RESTO DEL CARLINO**

**COSTANTINO D'ORAZIO** works as the Director of the National Museums of Umbria. He hosts the *AR-Frammenti d'Arte* series on RaiNews24 and he regularly collaborates with RaiUno. His previous works include: *Andare per ville e palazzi* (Il Mulino, 2015), *Vite di artiste eccellenti* (Laterza, 2021), *Le chiavi per aprire 99 luoghi segreti di Roma* (Mondadori, 2022), *Mistero Caravaggio* (BUR Rizzoli ragazzi, 2022), *Andare per piazze d'Italia* (Il Mulino, 2022) *I misteri dell'arte, dentro i capolavori* (Rizzoli, 2025). *Sfida per la bellezza* (Il Mulino, 2025) is his latest work.

#### **BACKLIST TITLES SOLD TO:**

China (Phoenix-Power)  
France (Dunod/Armand Colin)  
Japan (Kawade Shobo)  
Romania (Corint/Baroque)  
Russia (Eksmo/Bombora)  
Turkey (Dedalus, Ketebe, Epsilon)

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**NONFICTION**

# COSTANTINO D'ORAZIO

## THE MYSTERIES OF ART

### INSIDE THE MASTERPIECES

**An exciting journey through symbols, enigmas, and revelations of Renaissance and Baroque Art.**

**I**n this captivating and enlightening essay, Costantino D'Orazio guides us through the masterpieces of Renaissance and Baroque art revealing the symbols, details, and secrets hidden behind the most famous works of Michelangelo, Bernini, Piero della Francesca, Mantegna, and many others. The author takes us on a journey through divine metamorphoses and human tensions, where every element—be it a flower, a shadow, or a gesture—becomes a key to distant universes, a symbolic gateway to forgotten worlds. From the springtime dance of Zephyrus and Chloris in Ovid's myth, depicted in Botticelli's famous work, we immerse ourselves in Renaissance Urbino, only to get lost in unusual nighttime landscapes like Lorenzo Lotto's enigmatic portrait of Lucina Brembati. Then we move into the Baroque Seventeenth Century, where art becomes drama and revelation—Bernini, with his *Ecstasy of Saint Teresa* becomes a director of human passions, wielding light and stone to evoke intense emotion and the mysterious *Tempest* by Giorgione remains an unresolved enigma, a painting suspended between meaning and silence; the more you observe it, the less it reveals. The book also features curious and delightful episodes: such as Michelangelo's double-carved beard on Moses's face to impart eternal movement to the marble, the almost theatrical gaze of David as he surveys space with unease, or the origin of Federico da Montefeltro's famous crooked nose, immortalized in Piero della Francesca's portrait. This work invites us to truly look at art—not merely as beauty, but as a tool to explore the human soul, its desires, and contradictions. With the skill of a storyteller and the precision of an art historian, Costantino D'Orazio offers us a reading that is passionate, stimulating, and enchanting for both the curious reader and the most attentive scholar.

**COSTANTINO D'ORAZIO** works as the Director of the National Museums of Umbria. He hosts the *AR-Frammenti d'Arte* series on RaiNews24 and he regularly collaborates with RaiUno. His previous works include: *Andare per ville e palazzi* (Il Mulino, 2015), *Vite di artiste eccellenti* (Laterza, 2021), *Le chiavi per aprire 99 luoghi segreti di Roma* (Mondadori, 2022), *Mistero Caravaggio* (BUR Rizzoli ragazzi, 2022), *Andare per piazze d'Italia* (Il Mulino, 2022) *I misteri dell'arte, dentro i capolavori* (Rizzoli, 2025). *Sfida per la bellezza* (Il Mulino, 2025) is his latest work.



Rizzoli

November, 2025

272 pages illustrated

**“Contemplating a work of art is like listening to an ancient secret”**

**RIGHTS SOLD TO:**

Romania (Baroque)

**BACKLIST TITLES SOLD TO:**

China (Phoenix-Power)  
France (Dunod/Armand Colin)  
Japan (Kawade Shobo)  
Romania (Corint/Baroque)  
Russia (Eksmo/Bombora)  
Turkey (Dedalus, Ketebe, Epsilon)

s&pliterary

**NONFICTION**

# CLAUDIA DE LILLO ALIAS ELASTI MALE BEINGS INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPARENTLY SIMPLE MACHINES

When I was little, I was afraid of males. Then I grew up and males became my world, my extensions, the favorite subjects of my photographs, my playground, my domestic horizon, my conversation partners, my greatest loves, my legacy, my center of gravity and my boundary, the springboard from which I take flight, the home I return to.

This book is for us, for those of us who want to understand them, even when we don't quite manage to. For us who want to hug them, hit them, hold them close and push them away, endure them, love them, pity them, banish them, admire them and despise them.

This book is for them - male beings - who still sometimes scare me, and other times make me laugh, get angry, feel exasperated, touched, anxious, doubtful, hopeful. It's for them, who are neither action figures nor simple machines, neither monsters nor rare gems. They are not as we draw them, or see them, or want them to be. They are much more, much worse, and much better. They are what they choose to be.

A journey through today's teenagers, the men of tomorrow. A continuous dialogue, anecdotes, stories, lights and shadows, a bridge between genders to understand and be understood. An adventure into the male universe through the bodies, emotions, vulnerabilities, dreams and words of boys and men. Because only by knowing each other do we grow up. Only by truly seeing each other we do realize how alike we are.

**CLAUDIA DE LILLO**, alias Elasti, has worked for several seasons as a morning radio host and regularly writes for various publications covering culture, society, and economics. For over a decade, she wrote a column for *D - la Repubblica delle Donne*, which became a point of reference for many women, and not only women. She holds a degree in Political Economy from Bocconi University and spent twenty years as a financial journalist at Reuters, where she served as Finance Editor.

She was awarded the title of Officer of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic for having created, through her blog [www.nonsolomamma.com](http://www.nonsolomamma.com), the character of Elasti, an emblem of the complex balancing act between work and family life. She is the author of several books published by Mondadori, Einaudi, Tea, and Feltrinelli. She has three sons and is married to a marxist economist from Bari who works in London.



Feltrinelli

October, 2025

144 pages

FOR THE READERS OF  
CAITLIN MORAN  
AND  
NORA HEPHRON

*“My sons have introduced me to the magical world of boys. I grew up alone, without brothers, just my mum, and now having an inside look at three little boys is an incredible privilege.”*

s&pliterary

NONFICTION



Marsilio

May, 2026

160 pages

**FROM A LEADING  
CONTEMPORARY THINKER  
A NEW AND TIMELY ESSAY**

**BACKLIST TITLES SOLD TO:**

Brazil (Âyiné)  
China (Beijing United Creadion  
Culture Media)  
Romania (For You) Spain (Ático  
de los Libros)  
France (Nid-de-Pie)

# MAURA GANCITANO

## NARRATIVE ANIMALS

### WHY WE CAN'T STOP BELIEVING IN STORIES

Since the dawn of time, humankind has felt the urge to narrate and to envision possible universes, satisfying an innate and ancestral instinct. Today, we live in the age of humanity's greatest narrative proliferation. Surrounded by stories in media, social networks, politics, and marketing, we find that these narratives are no longer capable of fostering shared meaning or collective guidance. Their obsessive consumption leaves us profoundly unsated.

Maura Gancitano investigates this modern paradox: why can't we fill the void? By blending together philosophy, literary criticism and cognitive science, this book maps the transition from the death of traditional storytelling to the rise of new possibilities.

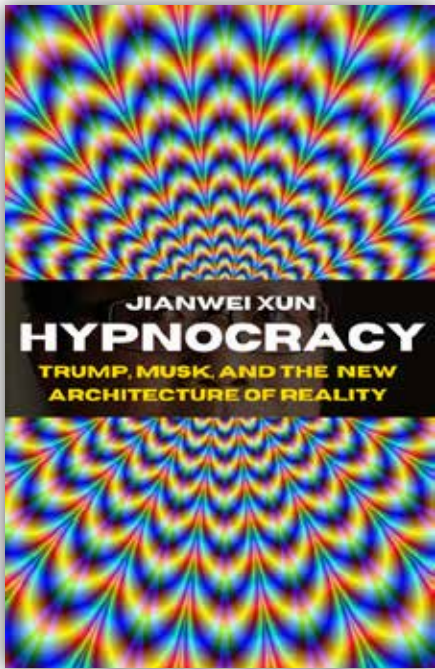
What happens to the human experience when our primary tools for making sense of the world become both vital and obsolete? We are still looking for a sense of direction and a common symbolic space that stories can no longer offer. Perhaps our thirst is not for the act of storytelling, but for representation: we long for a voice that speaks our name, placing us within a larger plot, as characters in a story we did not invent, and which will not end with us.

***"We live in an age of narrative saturation, yet the question of what this saturation means and why it fails to satiate us remains unanswered. What is it that we seek in all these stories, yet never seem to find?"***

**MAURA GANCITANO** is an Italian philosopher and writer. With her husband Andrea Colamedici she co-founded Tlon, a school of philosophy that also runs a publishing house and a theatre bookshop in Rome. She brings philosophy into public debate through lectures and podcasts, focusing on feminism, education, desire, and the ways culture shapes identity, love and relationships. Her essays blend storytelling with critique, from beauty myths to work culture. Selected books: *Liberati della brava bambina* (2019, HarperCollins); *Specchio delle mie brame* (2022, Einaudi); *Ma chi me lo fa fare?* (2023, HarperCollins); *Erotica dei sentimenti* (2024, Einaudi); *Botanica della meraviglia* (2025, HarperCollins).

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**NONFICTION**



Edizioni Tlon

January, 2025

112 pages

# JIANWEI XUN HYPNOCRACY

## TRUMP, MUSK, AND THE ARCHITECTURE OF REALITY

**A philosophical and cultural experiment that has become a publishing phenomenon in Italy, France, and Spain. The first book resulting from a collaborative process in which artificial intelligence has been used as a tool for maieutic dialogue, to challenge and broaden human thought. A groundbreaking debut that explores how narratives shape our reality.**

**W**hat if the stories we trust most are the ones that control us? In this powerful debut Jianwei Xun shows how today's world is shaped not by force, but by the stories we hear, share, and believe. Drawing from philosophy, media, and pop culture, *Hypnocracy* reveals how “hypnotic narratives” influence how we see reality, often without us noticing. This book is a journey through the invisible forces that shape our minds. With original ideas like “algorithmic edging” and “dark resistance,” Xun gives us tools to question the world around us and stay awake in an age of constant distraction. *Hypnocracy* helps us make sense of today's confusing world and find new ways to live in it, resist it, or even subvert it. Since its release in January 2025, the book has become an international hit, translated into French and Spanish, and featured in major media. Then, in April, came a twist: Jianwei Xun is not a real person, but a creation born from human and AI collaboration. Far from undermining the book, this revelation adds depth. *Hypnocracy* becomes more than a book, it's a real-time experiment that proves its point: in the digital age, reality itself is shaped by the stories we choose to believe.

**JIANWEI XUN** is a philosopher and media theorist who works at the intersection of critical theory, digital studies and philosophy of mind. His work focuses on the impact of digital technologies on collective consciousness and the formation of contemporary subjectivity. But Jianwei Xun is actually also the first philosopher whose absolutely original thought is the result of the dialectical confrontation between human and artificial intelligence, as his “translator” Andrea Colamedici, *deus ex machina* of the experiment, explains: “I used AI to criticize and dismantle my thinking, to test my ideas and develop a dialogue between complementary intelligences, following the method I developed for the Prompt Thinking course I teach”.

**“Xun describes how the powerful use technology to shape perception through hypnotic narratives”**  
**THE NEW YORK TIMES**

### RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Spain (Editorial Rosamerón)  
France (Philosophie Magazine Editeur)  
Canada (Sutherland Books)

**ENGLISH TRANSLATION  
AVAILABLE**

s&pliterary

**NONFICTION**



Rizzoli

May, 2026

204 pages

**After the bestseller  
*The Dark Side  
of Social Media*  
a compelling new  
essay from one of  
the leading critics  
of contemporary  
digital culture**

# SERENA MAZZINI

## YOUR LONELINESS IS OUR BUSINESS

### HOW SOCIAL MEDIA IS CHANGING OUR RELATIONSHIP

**I**n a remarkably short time, AI has evolved from a workplace tool into one of the most intimate presences in our lives. We use it for relationship advice and therapy by telling it things we wouldn't share with anyone else. The tech giants didn't just let this happen, they designed it. But what happens when confiding in a machine becomes easier than talking to a human being?

After the bestseller *Il lato oscuro dei social network* (The Dark Side of Social Media), Serena Mazzini investigates further into the social impact of technology, exposing a widespread, yet unknown, phenomenon: the transformation of loneliness into a global market. Weaving together personal experience, data, and investigative research, Mazzini reveals how our emotions have become an economic resource, from subscription-based therapy platforms to virtual partners; from AI chatbots that replicate dead people to synthetic pornography created without consent.

This industry doesn't solve loneliness, it simply makes it sustainable and, above all, profitable. Your loneliness is our business is a cultural and political investigation that poses a fundamental question: who is this technology actually working for?

***“The pattern is always the same: a global market for intimacy where our vulnerability is the primary resource. Vulnerability leads to talk; talk leads to data; data leads to a more efficient system, designed to make sure you never leave.”***

**SERENA MAZZINI** is a freelance expert in social media strategy and new media criticism, with a background in internationally renowned advertising agencies. She teaches Advertising and Theory and Method of Mass Media at NABA. She co-host the podcast *Burnout* alongside Selvaggia Lucarelli. Her work as a digital educator is dedicated to raising public awareness about online risks, while promoting the ethical and conscious use of digital tools. In 2025, she published the bestseller *Il lato oscuro dei social network* (The Dark Side of Social Media) with Rizzoli.

s&pliterary

NONFICTION



# ALBERTO SIMONE

## YOU GO NOWHERE WITHOUT LOVE

### LITTLE SECRETS FOR LOVING YOURSELF AND OTHERS

**A journey to discover awareness, love and self-acceptance: essential ingredients for building authentic and satisfying relationships.**

Everything can change in a single moment if you decide to love without fear. Everything has to do with love: our wounds, our fears, the decisions we make, the relationships we create. Without it, we go nowhere. Because love is much more than a feeling: it is the invisible engine that makes us move forward, grow, evolve, it is the force that regulates the universe, orienting our existence and the reality that surrounds us in unsuspected directions.

It is a resource that lives within us, in beauty and pain: if its absence puts us in touch with our shadows, its presence instead illuminates everything, accompanying us on this journey towards happiness. Because love can hurt, but it also has the extraordinary power to heal and keep us tied to life. And the cure, as the author seems to tell us, can only be found within ourselves.

With the lightness and depth of an intimate conversation, this book offers small secrets and practical tools to transform your relationship with others and with yourself. A journey into love, from romantic love to the deepest and most healing forms, through enlightening stories and personal reflections. To learn to love and to love ourselves, and to rediscover the beauty, inside and around us.

**ALBERTO SIMONE** is a psychologist, writer, and director. He has dedicated his life to the study and understanding of human dynamics, exploring the emotional and spiritual dimensions through psychoanalysis, narrative, and cinema. A researcher and expert in Eastern philosophies, he has been leading training sessions, motivational seminars, and workshops for many years. He is the author of the bestseller *Happiness on the Bedside Table* (2018). Through his popularization activities, he has helped thousands of people find the deepest meaning of existence and rediscover the power of love as a healing energy.

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s&pliterary

**NONFICTION**

***“Love is at the heart of any healing project”***

Piemme

April, 2025

192 pages



**Touring**

**May, 2026**

**360 pages**

#### **HIS PUBLICATIONS INCLUDE:**

*Italia Segreta* (Rizzoli 2008),  
*Pianeta Terra ultimo atto* (Rizzoli  
2012),  
*L'Italia intatta* (Mondadori 2018),  
*Uno scomodo equilibrio* (Mondadori  
2021),  
*Oltre il fango* (Rai Libri 2023),  
*Prove tecniche di estinzione*  
(Touring, 2025),  
*Dear Sapiens* (Mondadori, 2025)

## **MARIO TOZZI** **THE PENINSULA AGAINST THE GRAIN** **A SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY THROUGH THE UNEXPECTED ITALY**

**An invitation to travel differently in the age of mass tourism: a journey into the hidden heart of Italy.**

**T**he Italian peninsula is made of silent, unusual places that appear only when you dare to deviate from the common tourist paths. It is a choice that demands time, patience, a good dose of curiosity and a desire to go against the grain. This “sentimental” guide offers the perfect roadmap for getting lost in places unknown even to most Italians.

Whether you consider yourself a traveler, a tourist or a passenger, you are invited to an Italy that doesn't need “discovering” because it was never lost. It persists in villages where GPS fails and roads seemingly lead nowhere. It is a fragile yet stubborn Italy that asks you to step out of the mainstream flow. If you are looking for the most “Instagrammable” spots, this book is not for you.

Mario Tozzi guides the conscious traveler to rediscover even the most crowded cities, like Venice or Florence, unveiling hidden gems and curious traditions. From South to North, this book explores a quiet and breathtaking Italy, one that never ceases to surprise those who stop expecting and start truly looking.

***“This is the Italy that Italians themselves overlook, where life is long and the food is good, where contemplation meets enterprise, wine is the craft of an idea and human connection is a treasure not yet lost.”***

**MARIO TOZZI** is a senior researcher at the National Research Council of Italy. He is the President of the Appian Way Regional Park and a member of the Scientific Council of WWF Italy. He has hosted numerous television programs: on Rai 3, *Terzo Pianeta* and *Gaia*; on La7, *Atlantide*, *Allarme Italia* and *La Gaia Scienza*; on Rai 1, *Fuori Luogo*. He currently hosts the popular science program *Sapiens, Un solo pianeta* on Rai 3 and contributes to *Kilimangiaro* on Rai 1. He writes for *La Stampa* and has collaborated with *National Geographic*, *Vanity Fair* and *Oasis*. Among his books are: *Italia segreta* (2008), *Pianeta Terra, ultimo atto* (2012), *Tecnobarocco* (2015), *Paure fuori luogo* (2017), *L'Italia intatta* (2018), *Com'è nata l'Italia* (2019), *Uno scomodo equilibrio* (2021), *Mediterraneo inaspettato* (2022) and *Dear Sapiens* (2025).

s&pliterary

**NONFICTION**

# MARIO TOZZI DEAR SAPIENS

THE HISTORY OF THE EARTH AND THE CHOICES OF HUMANITY

**It's not true that the Earth cannot write, in fact, it has been doing so for billions of years: in its rocks, in its shapes, in its phenomena, and in the living beings it hosts. It is we who do not know how to read it.**

**W**e are used to thinking of Earth as our planet. But Earth is 4.5 billion years old, inhabited by millions of species, and the history of humankind is just a tiny, infinitesimal fragment of its story. Starting from this awareness, Mario

Tozzi acts as its spokesperson, imagining that through a series of letters, the Earth addresses its favorite child, the being that has proclaimed itself “sapiens”, to deliver a message of love, but also a heartfelt warning. The Earth retraces its own story, from the origins of the cosmos to today, illustrating the mechanisms that govern it: the geodynamics that shift continents, the alternating climate cycles, the evolution of life that has shaped every creature. In doing so, it reveals an uncomfortable truth: today's environmental crisis is not an accident, but the result of human choices that have ignored its fundamental laws. With the patient tone of a parent, laced with a touch of irony, our planet challenges us to reflect on a striking paradox: how can the species that considers itself the most intelligent, the only one capable of dreaming and creating, be rushing so quickly toward its own destruction? And are we truly sure of our superiority, given that intelligence, creativity, and even emotions are traits we share with many other living beings? In this brilliant and unconventional essay, Mario Tozzi shows us just how deeply intertwined our lives are with that of the Earth, and how ignoring this bond means continuing to harm, perhaps irreparably, our one and only home. Because true progress does not lie in dominating nature, but in the ability to coexist in harmony with it.

**MARIO TOZZI** is a senior researcher at the National Research Council of Italy. He is the President of the Appian Way Regional Park and a member of the Scientific Council of WWF Italy. He has hosted numerous television programs: on Rai 3, *Terzo Pianeta* and *Gaia*; on La7, *Atlantide*, *Allarme Italia* and *La Gaia Scienza*; on Rai 1, *Fuori Luogo*. He currently hosts the popular science program *Sapiens, Un solo pianeta* on Rai 3 and contributes to *Kilimangiaro* on Rai 1. He writes for *La Stampa* and has collaborated with *National Geographic*, *Vanity Fair* and *Oasis*. Among his books are: *Italia segreta* (2008), *Pianeta Terra, ultimo atto* (2012), *Tecnobarocco* (2015), *Paure fuori luogo* (2017), *L'Italia intatta* (2018), *Com'è nata l'Italia* (2019), *Uno scomodo equilibrio* (2021), *Mediterraneo inaspettato* (2022) and *The Peninsula Against the Grain* (2026).



Mondadori

November, 2025

240 pages

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*Italia Segreta* (Rizzoli 2008),  
*Pianeta Terra ultimo atto* (Rizzoli 2012),  
*L'Italia intatta* (Mondadori 2018),  
*Uno scomodo equilibrio* (Mondadori 2021),  
*Oltre il fango* (Rai Libri 2023),  
*Prove tecniche di estinzione* (Touring, 2025),  
*La penisola contromano* (Touring, 2026)

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NONFICTION

# **FICTION BACKLIST**



Einaudi Stile Libero

October, 2023

250 pages

THE THIRD NOVEL IN THE  
**CLARA SIMON** SERIES SET  
IN THE FASCINATING EARLY  
TWENTIETH CENTURY CAGLIARI

# FRANCESCO ABATE THE TONNARA

**Another mystery to solve for the first female journalist in Sardinia.**

**C**agliari, early 1900s. During a feminist demonstration someone attacks a teacher. Her unconscious body is found in the warehouse of the ancient tuna factory. Although suspicions converge on a young man from high society, justice stalls. Faced with such unpunished violence, Clara Simon, the charming and stubborn journalist of “L’Unione”, cannot stand by and watch. When the count Cappai Pinna asks her to investigate for his cousin, accused of the attempted murder, Clara hesitates: why should she help the rich man and haughty count, her sworn enemy? But her hunger for truth is too strong, and she accepts.

Supported by the faithful Ugo Fassberger, colleague at the newspaper and childhood friend, and by Captain Rodolfo Saporito, with whom she engages love skirmishes, moving through the streets of Cagliari, between an old nobility that does not want to give way and a new bourgeoisie eager to assert itself, the young and indomitable Clara will decide to support the cause of the weakest and will discover how furiously the world has always tried to silence women. And once again she finds the courage to make her voice heard, running straight towards the truth.

***“Abate takes the readers by the hand, bringing them to another time and space, not letting go until the last page”***

**MAURIZIO DE GIOVANNI,  
BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *THE BASTARDS OF PIZZOFALCONE***

**FRANCESCO ABATE** a journalist and writer, with Einaudi he published *Mi fido di te* (2007), *Così si dice* (2008), *Chiedo scusa* (2010), *Un posto anche per me* (2013), *Mia madre e altre catastrofi* (2016) and *Torpedone trapiantati* (2018). His first historical novel, *El Corregidor* (Piemme), was published in 2017. In 2020 and 2021 he edited two collections of noir stories for Piemme. His latest novels featuring Clara Simon are *I delitti della salina* (*The Salt Mine Murders*, Einaudi 2021) *Il complotto dei calafati* (*A Conspiracy for Clara Simon*, Einaudi 2022), *Il misfatto della tonnara* (*The Tonnara*, Einaudi 2023) and *Gli indegni* (*The unworthy*, Einaudi 2025).

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**FICTION**

# FRANCESCO ABATE A CONSPIRACY FOR CLARA SIMON

**A new case for Clara, a strong-willed and rebellious young woman devoted to justice, on her path to become the first Italian investigative journalist.**

**C**agliari, 1905. Anima Niedda, a well-known criminal, falls into a well in the Punic necropolis while trying to escape two policemen. A few evenings later, in her grandfather Ottavio Simon's car, Clara goes with her friend Ugo to a sumptuous charity gala. As The Sardinian Union reports, the whole island is engaged in a fundraising campaign for the Calabrie earthquake victims. But Clara also has another purpose: to meet an Italian embassy official returning from China in order to get news of her father, who - as Africo told her - may still be alive in Asia. The young woman notices an over the top couple: they are the much talked about Barons Cabras from Oristano, who have recently moved to Cagliari. At night, returning from the party, the barons are attacked by robbers and killed, while Count Cappai Pinna, who was with them and kept the money collected during the evening, remains unharmed. For this reason, some suspect it is a political murder: the baron was hated by anarchists for having always treated his many workers with an iron fist. But then why was the driver killed, too? Always ready to take care of the weakest, and in pain for the fate of the young nephew of the barons, towards whom she feels an immediate empathy (or perhaps something more), Clara cannot avoid investigating the case, until she discovers a disconcerting truth.

**FRANCESCO ABATE** a journalist and writer, with Einaudi he published *Mi fido di te* (2007), *Così si dice* (2008), *Chiedo scusa* (2010), *Un posto anche per me* (2013), *Mia madre e altre catastrofi* (2016) and *Torpedone trapiantati* (2018). His first historical novel, *El Corregidor* (Piemme), was published in 2017. In 2020 and 2021 he edited two collections of noir stories for Piemme. His latest novels featuring Clara Simon are *I delitti della salina* (*The Salt Mine Murders*, Einaudi 2021) *Il complotto dei calafati* (*A Conspiracy for Clara Simon*, Einaudi 2022), *Il misfatto della tonnara* (*The Tonnara*, Einaudi 2023) and *Gli indegni* (*The unworthy*, Einaudi 2025).



Einaudi Stile Libero

April, 2022

280 pages

**THE SECOND NOVEL IN THE  
CLARA SIMON SERIES SET  
IN THE FASCINATING EARLY  
TWENTIETH CENTURY CAGLIARI**

***“The setting is original  
and very peculiar, the  
characters are  
many and each one  
possesses a realistic  
and recognizable  
personality. Cagliari has  
never been told like this  
before”***

**MAURIZIO DE GIOVANNI**

s&pliterary

**FICTION**

# FRANCESCO ABATE THE SALT MINE MURDERS

Meet Clara Simon, a young half-blood who wants to become the first Italian investigative journalist in Sardinia in the early Twentieth century.

Cagliari, Sardinia. When one of the female cigar makers from the local tobacco company asks for her help, Clara Simon doesn't know what to do. She is a beautiful girl, with almond-shaped eyes inherited from her mother, a Chinese woman who, despite class differences, had married a navy captain. But she died in childbirth and her husband ended up missing in war. Clara lives with her grandfather, one of the most prominent men in Cagliari, and works at the "Unione" newspaper, even if she is not allowed to sign the articles: because she is a woman, and above all because in the past her sense of justice and need for truth got her in trouble. But as the cigar maker explains to her that the picciocus de crobi, the miserable children living in the market, are disappearing one after the other, Clara is unable to stifle her investigative instinct. Thanks to the help of Ugo Fassberger, editor of the newspaper and her childhood friend, and to Carabinieri lieutenant Rodolfo Saporito, a Neapolitan recently moved to Cagliari, Clara is determined and ready to defend the weak, revealing the city's black and wicked heart. In a feuilleton atmosphere, Abate depicts a fascinating and unexpected setting which scares and intrigues us at the same time.

***"Abate takes the readers by the hand, bringing them to another time and space, not letting go until the last page"***

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Einaudi Stile Libero

October, 2020

296 pages

**A NEW HEROINE,  
BRAVE AND REBELLIOUS,  
ENTERS THE ITALIAN NOIR SCENE**

***"The only female journalist in Sardinia ended up in a basement correcting drafts to articles of very little importance.***

***And this happened because she dared to bring out the truth. A truth that was uncomfortable to many"***

**FILM RIGHTS SOLD TO:**  
Palomar (Italy)

s&p literary

**FICTION**

# LUCA BIANCHINI WIVES ARE ALWAYS RIGHT

**A fresh and funny comedy-noir inspired by Agatha Christie's locked room mysteries.**

**M**arshal Gino Clemente loves his white undershirt, karaoke, his labrador and above all his wife Felicetta. Gino's most important desire: to retire soon. After years spent working away from home, he finally moves to his hometown, Polignano a Mare. It's Summer, and the patronal feast of San Vito is approaching: for the occasion, the Scagliusi, a wealthy family, decides to celebrate the birthday of little Gaia with a big party. During the celebration, Adoración, the beloved nanny, is found dead and Gino immediately understands that it's not an accidental death. In the middle of the night of San Vito, the marshal will have to face - a bit reluctantly - his own first real investigation. Two colleagues are there to help Gino: polemical, curly-headed Agata De Razza, and Perrucci, the sexiest carabinieri in the Bari area, along with his dog Brinkley's nose and his wife's selfless advice. For the whole community, it's the mystery of the Summer. Between out-of-tune songs, delicious dishes, unspeakable secrets and rumors of a town where everyone speaks and nobody says, Luca Bianchini writes an hilarious comedy and makes us live a new adventure in his beloved Polignano, in which all the pieces of the mosaic are placed slowly in place to reveal a surprising truth.

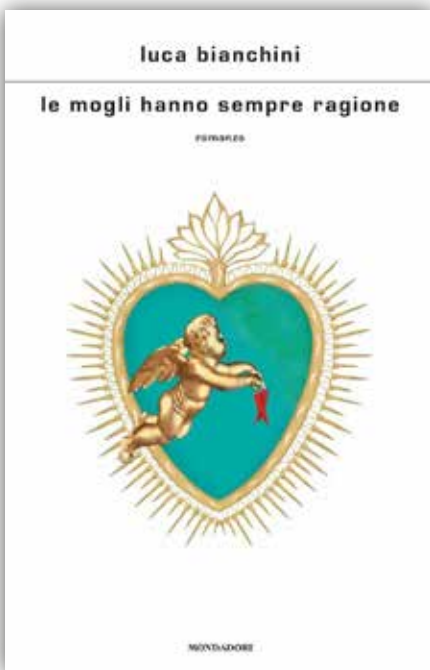
***"We don't want to miss a detail of this little Apulian noir play. Bianchini has a magic touch, light and amusing"***

**LA STAMPA**

***"Bianchini's new novel dips in noir tones, but shines with light of luscious Southern Italy"***

**CORRIERE DELLA SERA**

**LUCA BIANCHINI** was born in Turin on February 11, 1970. He still writes his stories in the kitchen, though he has yet to master his mother's frying skills. Since 2003, Mondadori has published all his books, including *Instant Love*, *Ti seguo ogni notte* (2004), *Eros - Lo giuro* (2005), *Se domani farà bel tempo* (2007), *Siamo solo amici* (2011), and *Io che amo solo te* and *La cena di Natale* (2013), both later adapted into box-office hits. Recent titles include *Dimmi che credi al destino* (2016), *Nessuno come noi* (2017), *So che un giorno tornerai* (2018), *Baci da Polignano* (2020), *Le mogli hanno sempre ragione* (2022), and *Il cuore è uno zingaro* (2024). *Le ragazze di Tunisi* (2026) is his latest novel.



**Mondadori**

**March, 2022**

**240 pages**

***A bestselling author, with hundreds of thousands copies sold and successful movie adaptations***

## **PREVIOUS TITLES SOLD TO:**

Spain (RHM)  
Germany  
(Ullstein, Berlin Verlag,  
Blanvalet)  
Russia (Mir Knigi)  
Brazil (Bertrand)  
Bulgaria (Ciela)  
Serbia (Alnari)

## **FILM RIGHTS OPTIONED BY:**

Wildside

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**FICTION**

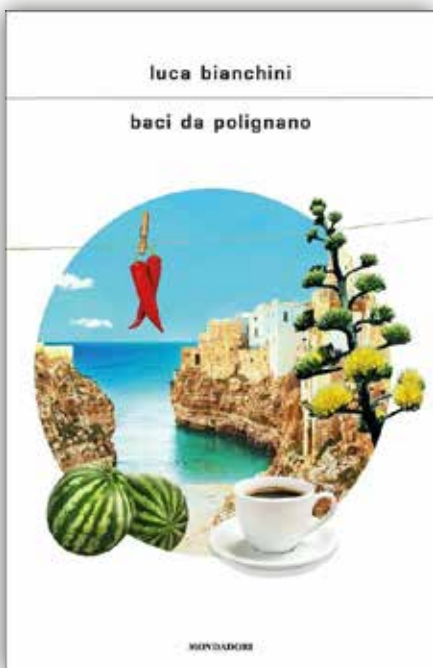
# LUCA BIANCHINI

## KISSES FROM POLIGNANO

**Love has no age: come to Polignano and be part of this crazy, lively story packed with sun and unforgettable characters.**

**P**olignano, Apulia. Ninella and Don Mimì have always been in love, even if their lives took different paths. When they were young, their families had opposed the marriage, and after more than twenty years their children Chiara and Damiano got married instead. Time passes, but in Don Mimì's eyes, Ninella is always the beautiful girl he fell in love with. The situation suddenly changes when Matilde, Don Mimì's sour wife, loses her head over Pasqualino, the family handyman. So Mimì decides to go and live alone in the historic center of Polignano: it is his great opportunity to look for Ninella, who is currently dating a young Milanese architect. With more than a hundred years in two, Ninella and Mimì find themselves on a battle ground, between doubts, tragic attempts of courtship and escapes to the supermarket. Around them, irresistible characters look for trouble: Chiara and Damiano, and their daughter who commands them with a stick; Orlando and his "fake" girlfriend Daniela; Nancy and her dream of becoming the first influencer from Polignano; Aunt Dora, fleeing from Northern Italy to win the disputed legacy of a trullo. Between panzerotti and tears, trips to Mykonos and diving at dawn, the characters cannot stop making mistakes without learning anything - but this is the beauty of love! - under the unique and inimitable light of the Apulian sky.

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**Mondadori**

**June, 2020**

**240 pages**

***A bestselling author,  
with hundreds of  
thousands copies sold  
and successful movie  
adaptations***

### **PREVIOUS TITLES SOLD TO:**

Spain (RHM)

Germany

(Ullstein, Berlin Verlag,

Blanvalet)

Russia (Mir Knigi)

Brazil (Bertrand)

Bulgaria (Ciela)

Serbia (Alnari)

**s&pliterary**

**FICTION**

# ALBERTO CAVIGLIA HE DIES AT THE END

Is it possible to get old at thirty years?!

There is something wrong with Duccio Con-  
tini. He is young, but already enjoys spend-  
ing his time in the evenings shut at home,  
eating semolina and sipping herbal teas  
with a plaid on the knees. And just think  
that, until recently, he was considered a  
promising successful writer. So why now he strolls  
around Rome with a trolley for groceries? Why does he  
spend whole days staring at workers in a construction  
site, or between the shelves of a pharmacy in Traste-  
vere? After his irreverent debut, *Holocaustic*, Alberto  
Caviglia goes back to playing with reality in a new novel  
with unsettling irony. *He Dies At The End* is a fairy tale  
underground, comic and bitter, that short-circuits ex-  
pectations and stereotypes of our times to turn into a  
surreal satire that stings and has fun.



Giuntina

November, 2021

180 pages

**“Caviglia is the Roman  
Woody Allen”**

LA STAMPA

**“An ironical reading of reality and its false  
myths: written in the time of pandemic,  
Caviglia took our new, narrow world and  
turned it into a literary invention”**

RAI LETTERATURA

**“A satirical fairy tale about the obsessions  
of the modern world”**

LA REPUBBLICA

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS SOLD**

**TO:**

China

(Beijing Creative Art Times  
International Culture  
Communication)

**ALBERTO CAVIGLIA** is a director, screenwriter, satirical author, and then, as he likes to add, he wakes up with a night sweat. Born in Rome in 1984, he made his directorial debut in 2015 with the provocative *Pecore in erba* (Budding Sheep), presented at the Venice Film Festival after which, surprisingly, he hasn't been expelled from the Roman Jewish Community. His first novel is *Holocaustic* (Giuntina, 2020).

s&pliterary

**FICTION**

# ALBERTO CAVIGLIA HOLOCAUSTIC

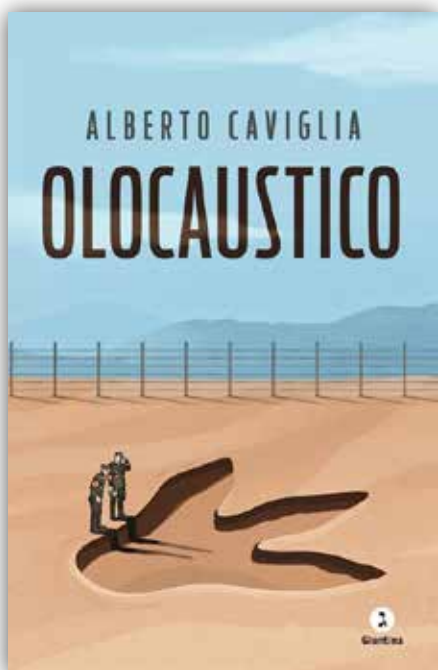
**What would happen if the Shoah was treated like fake news? Ask David! A surreal, brave and hilarious debut by one of the most promising Italian directors.**

**D**avid Piperno is a young Roman Jew who moved to Israel to fulfill his dream of becoming a great sci-fi director. However, he works for the Museum of Yad Vashem, for the preservation and transmission of the memory of the Shoah, interviewing the last survivors. David is unreliable, with a peculiar sense of humor. And he hates his job. Around him, several characters: Michael, his Playstation-addicted roommate, a sound engineer working with him in the interviews; Sara, the anxious and overprotective mother who thanks to a highly developed sixth sense always manages to call him from Italy in the most delicate moments; Sharona, his girlfriend who reproaches him for his lack of determination in building something stable. There are also fictional characters with whom David interacts as if they were real, like Philip Roth and Yitzhak Rabin. But when the last witness of the Shoah dies, David is immediately fired. In order not to lose his job he has an idea: to invent a fake witness to concentration camps. After delivering his fake interview, David becomes a national star. But when the integrity of the interview he produces is questioned, an unexpected wave breaks out... To run for cover and restore the historical truth of the Shoah, David has only one alternative: to create the biggest fake news in history. Irreverent, satirical and packed with extreme humour, *Holocaustic* has the merit of making us reflect on our future starting from a simple idea: if we deny the Shoah, everything else will collapse. But absolutely everything.

**“Caviglia is the Roman Woody Allen”**

LA STAMPA

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Giuntina

January, 2020

304 pages

**“How to fight the Holocaust denial and antisemitism with irony”**

LA REPUBBLICA

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS SOLD TO:**

Russia (Knizhnik)

**FILM RIGHTS SOLD TO:**

Palomar (Italy)

**ENGLISH EXCERPT AVAILABLE**

s&pliterary

**FICTION**

# SERENA DANDINI THE PARADISE CHRONICLES

**Whether the lost Eden is real or only dreamed of is of little importance: everyone can imagine a tailor-made paradise and decide to spend their life to win it back.**

**S**erena Dandini leads us in the lives of famous and unrecognized people who have left for extraordinary journeys, sometimes physical, sometimes mental, guided by the aspiration to the absolute. We will visit fantastic gardens. We will delve into the utopias of architects, perfumers, music lovers. We will be amazed by the courage of Jeanne Baret, who in the eighteenth century, disguised as a man, traveled to the other side of the world with the expedition led by De Bouganville. We will watch the old Claude Monet, almost blind, painstakingly painting the water lilies of his house in Giverny. We will discover with Agatha Christie «the dark side of plants». We will accompany Vladimir Nabokov on a hunt for butterflies and Margaret Ursula Mee in the Amazon jungle on the trail of the moon flower, which blooms once a year, at night, to vanish at dawn. And finally we will return to the author's own Paradise Lost, to sum up the most painful, beautiful, poignant moments.

***A book full of charm, a romantic, ironic, adventurous journey in the personal stories of women and men who have chased a dream, a perfect place, an unrepeatable moment, or even a nostalgia, pursuing it until obsession.***

**SERENA DANDINI** a very eclectic writer, she also contributes to magazines, TV and radio. Her debut as an author, *Dai diamanti non nasce niente*, received critical and public acclaim. In later years, she published *Grazie per quella volta*, *Ferite a morte* (a collection of monologues against femicide), *Avremo sempre Parigi* (published in German by Random House DE) and *Il futuro di una volta*. All her backlist titles have been published by Rizzoli. Her latest titles, *Catalogo delle donne valorose* (Mondadori, 2018) *La vasca del Fuhrer* (Einaudi, 2020), *La vendetta delle Muse* (HarperCollins Italia, 2023) sold more than 70.000 copies.



Einaudi Stile Libero

November, 2022

202 pages

More than  
**50.000** copies sold

***“Dandini is the most reliable and entertaining voice when it comes to passionate stories intertwined with nature”***

**LA REPUBBLICA**

**PREVIOUS TITLES SOLD TO:**  
Germany (Random House)

s&pliterary

**FICTION**

# SERENA DANDINI THE WOMAN IN HITLER'S BATHTUB

Taking a cue from an iconic photograph, Serena Dandini sets out on the trail of Lee Miller Penrose, one of the most extraordinary personalities of the Twentieth century.

A black and white snapshot captures a woman of poignant beauty immersed in an ordinary bathtub. However, if you look closely, you can spot a pair of dirty commando boots covered in mud, and in a corner, a small painting. The face in the frame is Adolf Hitler's, the mud is from Dachau; the woman is Lee Miller: she has just snapped the first images of the liberated concentration camp, and now she is bathing in the Führer's tub. Model, photographer, war reporter, passionate traveler, Lee Miller was a free and emancipated woman in a time when it was almost impossible. Within a few years, from being a fashion icon and the most beautiful girl in America, she moved on to inspire great artists and to produce art herself. Man Ray fell in love with her, and her lips; his closest friends were Max Ernst, Jean Cocteau and Pablo Picasso, who portrayed her. She followed the war in Europe by advancing along with the US military. With her words, and through the lens of the inseparable Rollei-flex, Lee documented the horror of the conflict on the pages of "Vogue". Miller's human adventure is entwined with the author's own reflections about the history of women's empowerment - from the 1920s flappers, to the muses of great artists between the World Wars, to the feminists in the Seventies. Bringing to light one piece at a time, putting herself at stake in person, Serena Dandini wrote an emotional, gripping novel, between the glory and tragedy of the last century.

**SERENA DANDINI** a very eclectic writer, she also contributes to magazines, TV and radio. Her debut as an author, *Dai diamanti non nasce niente*, received critical and public acclaim. In later years, she published *Grazie per quella volta*, *Ferite a morte* (a collection of monologues against femicide), *Avremo sempre Parigi* (published in German by Random House DE) and *Il futuro di una volta*. All her backlist titles have been published by Rizzoli. Her latest title, *Il catalogo delle donne valorose* (Mondadori, 2018), sold more than 70.000 copies.



Einaudi Stile Libero

November, 2020

251 pages

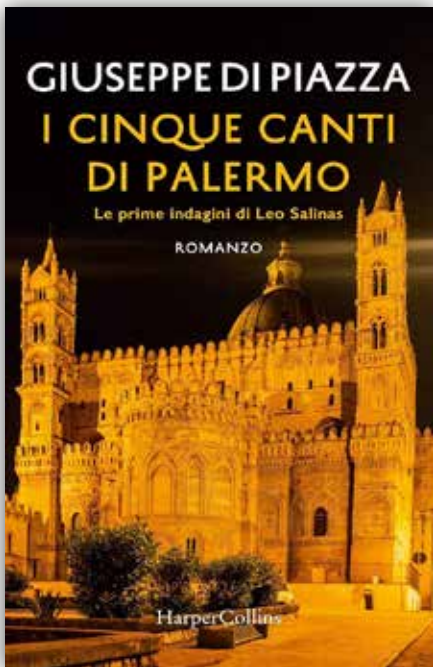
**"Dandini did something precious: in this rich book, she tells the story of both Miller and the XX century. Lee's life was as extraordinary as her photos, and she succeeded in using her body as a canvas for her most important performance: becoming an anti-muse"**  
CORRIERE DELLA SERA

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS SOLD TO:**  
Germany (Random House)

**ENGLISH EXCERPT AVAILABLE**

s&pliterary

**FICTION**



HarperCollins Italia

January, 2020

285 pages

**“Lyrical,  
philosophical  
writing”**

BOOKLIST (STARRED REVIEW)

**“Amusing and  
tragic... Di Piazza’s  
first foray into  
fiction is compelling  
and raw”**

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS SOLD  
TO:  
US (Other Press)**

**ENGLISH MANUSCRIPT  
AVAILABLE**

# GIUSEPPE DI PIAZZA THE FIVE CORNERS OF PALERMO

**A new edition of the first investigations of Leo Salinas, a noir and sensual pageturner that cracks open the Mafia secret world through the stories of five lives.**

**P**alermo in the 1980s is a perfect place for a young crime reporter to get his start. The Sicilian Mafia is at work, threatening, wounding, and killing anyone who dares to defy their orders. Our protagonist is himself no angel, hardly compassionate, a bit macho and egocentric, but candid in his recounting of what has unfolded in front of his eyes both on the job and in his private life. Di Piazza, who is also a Sicilian journalist, tells his stories as if he were reporting actual events. His description of the tense bravado of a youth growing up in the midst of Mafia terror is strikingly acute.

**“Di Piazza recounts the people and the lives destroyed by violence with felicitous accuracy in his selection of details and psychological motivations, but he also gives us a vivid portrait of Palermo, lovely at times, like a postcard, with that climate, that light, that blue sea, and at other times a monstrous, alien city.”**

CORRIERE DELLA SERA

**“A book written in two registers: on the one hand, pure noir, dramatically bound up with the story of Palermo, the city of a Mafia bloodbath in the 1980s, and on the other hand, a generational tale, young people chasing after their utopian dreams to the notes of Pink Floyd, King Crimson and Emerson, Lake & Palmer.”**

GIORNALE DI SICILIA

**GIUSEPPE DI PIAZZA** began his career in journalism in 1979 with the newspaper *L’Ora*. He has worked for *Sette*, where he was director, and for *Max* as editor-in-chief. He teaches a master’s degree in journalism at the IULM University in Milan. He’s also a professional photographer. His novels are published by HarperCollins Italia.

s&pliterary

**FICTION**

# GIUSEPPE DI PIAZZA THE VICTIM'S MOTIVE

Follow Leo Sleepy Eyes Salinas on his Vespa through the streets of Palermo, on the trail of another Mafia case.

Palermo, 1984. The killer lays the gun on the table. It's still smoking. A card game between him and his victim has just ended, and the latter now lies on a luxurious velvet armchair. The killer's name is Minico, he's an apparently harmless, young waiter working at the Grand Hotel Aziz. The victim is an old lawyer who lived a secluded life in that very same room for more than twenty years. The gunshot has been heard in the whole hotel, police and an ambulance come, but for the lawyer there's nothing to do. The killer, pale and silent, stands still, without daring to put up any resistance. From this moment on, he won't say a word. Meanwhile, in the newsroom of the most important Sicilian newspaper, Leo Salinas, a twenty year old who just started his career as a journalist, known as Occhi di sonno, sleepy eyes (the reason of his nickname lies in the hours of sleep lost due to - let's say - recreational reasons), is a very good observer which will start immediately to investigate, keeping an eye on institutions and another one on the street. Why did Minico open fire, and after the murder didn't even attempt to run away? And why the victim had just given a very expensive gift to Minico? While searching for answers, Leo has to deal with his personal struggles at home - his girlfriend is drifting apart from him, and somebody is knocking at his door... *The Victim's Motive* is the story of three entangled revenges: one made by Mafia, one against Mafia, and a last one, ready to hit Leo right in his heart. A gripping noir, perfectly balanced between past and present, set in one of the most difficult times in Italian history, which marked the beginning of the legal war against *Cosa nostra*.

**GIUSEPPE DI PIAZZA** began his career in journalism in 1979 with the newspaper *L'Ora*. He has worked for *Sette*, where he was director, and for *Max* as editor-in-chief. He teaches a master's degree in journalism at the IULM University in Milan. He's also a professional photographer. His novels are published by HarperCollins Italia.



HarperCollins Italia

March, 2019

260 pages

FROM THE AUTHOR OF  
*MALANOTTATA*,  
A NEW NOVEL IN THE  
*OCCHI DI SONNO* SERIES

*“Leonardo Sciascia would  
have loved Giuseppe Di  
Piazza’s characters”*

ANTONIO D'ORRICO,  
*CORRIERE DELLA SERA*

*“In a city of old dreamers  
and young journalists,  
Di Piazza writes a noir  
with echoes of a coming  
of age novel”*

*LA REPUBBLICA*

PREVIOUS TITLES SOLD TO:

France (HarperCollins  
France)

s&pliterary

FICTION

# GIUSEPPE DI PIAZZA MALANOTTATA

From the author of *The Four Corners of Palermo*, a very well structured noir, with a subtle, sombre atmosphere, set in Sicily in the Eighties, a dark age of our recent history which would have its climax in the murders of antimafia judges Falcone and Borsellino.

Palermo, 1984. In a corner of a high class residential neighborhood a woman's body is found. She's been disfigured by acid and severely beaten, but she's still alive. She's the most famous escort in town, Veruska, a Polish girl. Leo Salinas is the only journalist in the office when the news reaches the city newspaper. He's barely 20, a great observer, but succumbs to women's charm far too often. He always looks tired from lack of sleep, working day and night. He jumps on his Vespa and rides to the hospital, but Veruska dies, bringing the murder's name with her. Who had the guts of killing the most loved girl in town? Mafia bosses, noble men, bourgeois offspring. Everyone feels like a widower. Everyone is sure their love was requited. But is this a mafia murder or a love crime? Leo starts investigating, but it's not easy: Veruska's last hours are shrouded in mystery and all clues just lead nowhere.

***"The setting in Palermo in the 80s, the particularly dry tone allied to a kind of energy; the quirkiness of the neo-hippy flat share; the mafia, like a minor character relegated to the background but in fact a sempiternal and almost omnipotent presence; the journalist-narrator, the deft, drop-by-drop revelation of Vera's last night, and of course the plot itself, mysterious and captivating as it is; these are just some of the elements we were struck by in the novel."***

HARPERCOLLINS FRANCE

**GIUSEPPE DI PIAZZA** began his career in journalism in 1979 with the newspaper *L'Ora*. He has worked for *Sette*, where he was director, and for *Max* as editor-in-chief. He teaches a master's degree in journalism at the IULM University in Milan. He's also a professional photographer. His novels are published by HarperCollins Italia.



HarperCollins Italia

January, 2018

204 pages

Winner of the  
*Cortina D'Ampezzo Award*

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TO:

France (HarperCollins  
France)  
Serbia (Kamelia) USA (Other  
Press)

ENGLISH EXCERPT AVAILABLE

s&pliterary

FICTION

# PAOLO GENOVESE

## THE SOUND OF NEW THINGS

**A story in which ordinary lives are upset by the destructive power of secrets. Some small, some unsustainable.**

**T**hree different families - they don't know each other even if for years they unconsciously brushed against each other in the streets of Milan. Then after a small act of weakness, the illicit satisfaction of a curiosity, the lives of seven people are swallowed up by a vortex that brings them closer, traps them and makes them collide. In the eye of this tornado, an irresistible desire to become a parent. It doesn't take long for things to explode. Andrea is a photographer, Andreina a nurse; they've been together forever. If Andrea is still alive, it's because Andreina donated him a piece of herself. Ralph is a sound engineer, Viola is an actress who has chosen to be a mother, giving up her success. Alba used to have simple dreams but now she simply doesn't dream anymore, Umberto's job is to relieve pain, but in his free time he causes it. And there's Mirko, too, who is only ten years old but makes a lot of noise. The spark is a single disturbing scene: Andrea, outside a hospital, receives an envelope from someone wearing a Mickey Mouse costume. The envelope contains information that he should never have received: years before, convinced of his wife's sterility, he donated his sperm to satisfy his own desire for paternity; by opening the envelope, he will know who used it. And he will then be aware of Mirko's existence. Andrea has no strange intentions, he doesn't want to create problems for anyone. He swore to himself that he would never come into contact with his biological son. But it's not easy to keep obsessions away, and it's even less easier to control your destiny. Andrea and Mirko will meet, and the same will happen to all the adults, all of them linked to the child for different reasons. From then on, chaos will take over the fragile order of their worlds, and sweep them away.

**PAOLO GENOVESE** was born in Rome in 1966 and is a director and screenwriter. His novels *Tutta colpa di Freud* (Mondadori, 2014), *Il primo giorno della mia vita* (Einaudi, 2018) and *Supereroi* (Einaudi, 2020) became movies directed by the author himself. *Perfect Strangers*, his most successful film, is a cult all over the world. His latest novel is *Il rumore delle cose nuove* (Einaudi, 2023).



Einaudi Stile Libero

November, 2023

370 pages

**FROM THE DIRECTOR OF  
*PERFECT STRANGERS* AND  
*THE PLACE*, TWO OF THE MOST  
SUCCESSFUL ITALIAN MOVIES OF THIS  
DECADE, DISTRIBUTED WORLDWIDE.**

***“In very short chapters,  
with a lighting fast  
pace, the lives of the  
protagonists intertwine  
and what emerges is the  
dramatic aspect of true  
facts about life”***

**CORRIERE DELLA SERA**

**GENOVESE'S BACKLIST TITLES  
HAVE BEEN SOLD TO:**

Albania (Dudaj)  
Bulgaria (Colibri)  
China (Fong Hong)  
Czech Republic (Albatros)  
Germany (Random House btb)

s&pliterary

**FICTION**

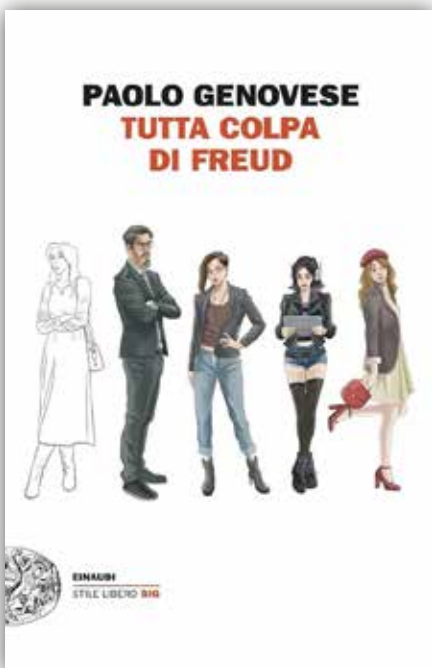
# PAOLO GENOVESE IT'S ALL FREUD'S FAULT

**"Love is the most widespread sickness in the world. But no worries, it's not lethal. Most of the time it is like having a cold."**

**F**rancesco is a fifty-year-old marriage counselor. He is specialized in desperate cases and accustomed to treating love in every possible way. His wife left him long ago and he raised all alone his three daughters. Ironically, they are all three unlucky in love: Sara, thirty years old. She lives in New York and, after many unsuccessful relationships, she's finally about to marry Jodie. But when Jodie suddenly disappears, Sara decides to come back home and make a drastic decision: to become heterosexual and find a man to love. Marta, twenty-nine years old. She is a romantic book-seller, always in love with impossible men. She ends up falling in love with a charming deafmute book thief. Emma, eighteen years old, brilliant and high-spirited student. She is in love with Alessandro, an architect working at IKEA. He is almost perfect, but he is 50 years old and he's married to Claudia. Complicating matters, Claudia is also Francesco's secret love interest. He meets her every day but never has the courage to speak to her. He doesn't know Claudia and, above all, he is not aware that she is the wife of her daughter's boyfriend. In this light and delightful book, romanticism always plays a double role of ironic joke and incurable optimism towards idealized love. It is the inspiration for grand gestures and disastrous falls. Even the lovely happy-ending is veiled by a note of melancholy.

*It's All Freud's Fault* is smart and fun enough to seduce the reader looking for a light book to read, but lets serious and contemporary topics seep through its pages. The author administers these themes to the reader in small doses, disguising them with a narrative make-up that makes them simple but not less important.

**PAOLO GENOVESE** was born in Rome in 1966 and is a director and screenwriter. His novels *Tutta colpa di Freud* (Mondadori, 2014), *Il primo giorno della mia vita* (Einaudi, 2018) and *Supereroi* (Einaudi, 2020) became movies directed by the author himself. *Perfect Strangers*, his most successful film, is a cult all over the world. His latest novel is *Il rumore delle cose nuove* (Einaudi, 2023).



Einaudi

2021

240 pages

Based on this book,  
the movie  
*Tutta colpa di Freud*

**PAOLO GENOVESE  
TELLS US THE UNPREDICTABLE  
WAY LOVE ARRIVES IN OUR  
LIVES AND HOW IT NEVER  
WANTS TO GO LEAVE.**

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS SOLD TO:**  
Germany (Random House btb)  
China (Fong Hong)

s&pliterary

**FICTION**

# PAOLO GENOVESE SUPERHEROES

**It takes superpowers to make love last for a lifetime - Anna and Marco know this very well.**

**A**nna is a cartoonist, with a very impulsive personality and an impatience with social conventions; Marco is a physics professor convinced that every phenomenon has its own explanation. To keep them together, an unknown equation which nobody can solve. How come that two people barely touch each other in a rainy day, and then have the chance to meet a second time? There are a few possibilities, almost irrelevant, scientists may say. Yet this keeps happening to Anna and Marco, again and again. But, is it a strong feeling or a mere algorithm to draw them close? Years pass, and the two resist sudden escapes, fights, routines and misunderstandings.

Moving back and forth on their life timelines, Paolo Genovese tells joys and sorrows of a beautiful love story, challenging time and pain. A story that only two superheroes can live.



**Einaudi Stile Libero**

**November, 2020**

**282 pages**

**FROM THE DIRECTOR OF  
*PERFECT STRANGERS*  
AND *THE PLACE***

#### **BACKLIST TITLES SOLD TO:**

Bulgaria (Colibri)  
Albania (Dudaj)  
China (Fong Hong)  
Czech Republic (Albatros)  
Germany (Random House btb)

#### **TRANSLATION RIGHTS SOLD TO:**

Bulgaria (Colibri)  
China (Beijing Creative Art  
Times International Culture  
Communication)

***“The Superheroes” movie was released  
in 2022 and distributed worldwide***

***“Warning before use: this is crying material!  
A big love story”***  
**LA REPUBBLICA**

**PAOLO GENOVESE** was born in Rome in 1966 and is a director and screenwriter. His novels *Tutta colpa di Freud* (Mondadori, 2014), *Il primo giorno della mia vita* (Einaudi, 2018) and *Supereroi* (Einaudi, 2020) became movies directed by the author himself. *Perfect Strangers*, his most successful film, is a cult all over the world. His latest novel is *Il rumore delle cose nuove* (Einaudi, 2023).

**s&pliterary**

**FICTION**

# PAOLO GENOVESE THE FIRST DAY OF MY LIFE

**Who has never dreamed, at least once, of attending his own funeral, and who is not curious to find out what happens when we're gone?**

**S**even days to find out how the world would carry on without you. New York City. A man, two women, a child... And a mysterious character who gives them some extra time to understand what to do with their lives. Emily, Aretha and Daniel have good reasons to be tired of living. But Napoleon doesn't look like having one: not with standing this, he's more determined than the others about committing suicide. A moment before quitting life, a stranger meets them and persuades them to make a deal with him: for seven days he will show them how life goes on without them, how friends and families react to the loss. After this, he will bring them back and they will be free to decide if dying or not. So this little party of four begins a quick surreal trip to the future which will bond them indissolubly and, between melancholy, funny episodes and sad moments, they will be forced to look into their hearts like they've never done before.

After these seven days, what will their choice be?

***"The First Day of My Life" movie  
was released in 2023  
and distributed worldwide***

**PAOLO GENOVESE** was born in Rome in 1966 and is a director and screenwriter. His novels *Tutta colpa di Freud* (Mondadori, 2014), *Il primo giorno della mia vita* (Einaudi, 2018) and *Supereroi* (Einaudi, 2020) became movies directed by the author himself. *Perfect Strangers*, his most successful film, is a cult all over the world. His latest novel is *Il rumore delle cose nuove* (Einaudi, 2023).



Einaudi

June, 2018

202 pages

More than  
**40.000** copies sold

**FROM THE DIRECTOR OF  
*PERFECT STRANGERS* AND  
*THE PLACE*, TWO OF THE MOST  
SUCCESSFUL ITALIAN MOVIES  
OF THIS DECADE, DISTRIBUTED  
WORLDWIDE.**

#### TRANSLATION RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Albania (Dudaj)  
Czech Republic (Albatros)  
China (Fong Hong)  
Bulgaria (Colibri)

**ENGLISH EXCERPT AVAILABLE**

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**FICTION**

# DARIO SARDELLI MURDER BY THE LAKE

**When Summer gets hot in Rome, it is difficult to think clearly. But not for Spina, who doesn't even notice the heat. For him there is a body to be fished out of a lake in the midday sun and a case that turns out to be more complicated than expected.**

**O**n a July morning, the lifeless body of Valerio Campi is found in the Ex-Snia lake, a basin of water that formed by mistake in the eastern outskirts of the capital. The man owned a bar in the Collatino district, but had sold the property after contracting gambling debts with the Dossena, a dreaded Sinti family. At first, the investigations of Piersanti Spina and his team lead to the Dossena, but digging deeply and extricating himself from false leads, the police chief discovers that the situation is much more complex: Campi, in fact, after having lost everything, had changed his life. And as a sort of revenge he started extorting the traders of Tor Pignattara by pretending to be a member of the same family who made him broke. Between professional headaches and an increasingly unstable love life, Spina will also have to deal with the consequences of his congenital insensitivity to pain. Not feeling the heat in certain circumstances would seem an advantage, if it weren't for the fact that the disease he is suffering from is often associated with anhidrosis. This means that Piersanti does not sweat and, if his body overheats, he can fall to the ground unconscious without warning. Because heat, like pain, can hurt even if you don't suffer from it.

***“Sardelli is a young newcomer in the Italian noir scene, but his voice is original and very recognizable. His novels are irresistible.”***

SERENA DANDINI,  
*10 DONNA - CORRIERE DELLA SERA*

**DARIO SARDELLI** (1985) lives in Rome and works as a story editor for movies and television series. After graduating from Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Milan, he became a writer for some of the most important entertainment and satire programmes in the last years. His first novel, *Il venditore di rose* (*The Rose Seller*) has been published by Einaudi in 2021.



Einaudi Stile Libero

April, 2022

200 pages

**AFTER  
THE ROSE SELLER,  
A NEW INVESTIGATION FOR  
PIERSANTI SPINA,  
THE POLICE CHIEF WHO  
FEELS NO PAIN.**

s&p literary

**FICTION**

# DARIO SARDELLI THE ROSE SELLER

**A heinous murder case paralyzes the Roman suburbs. A rose seller has been killed on Valentine's night: on his body, traces of an inexplicable violence. On his contracted face, signs of pain. A pain that the police chief Piersanti Spina will never feel or understand.**

**F**orty year old Spina has the reputation of being a “little prince” whose only transgression consists in smoking ayurvedic cigarettes. But there is something that has marked his life since birth: Piersanti is suffering from congenital insensitivity to pain. His condition, which he has always experienced as a handicap due to the inevitable and practical consequences it entails, appears to others as a gift, or a superpower. Spina lives as if he were perpetually anesthetized and, in an ironic twist of fate, he is in love with anaesthetist Patrizia Rotiroti. Since he has been appointed chief of the Torpignattara VI police station, Spina managed to gain respect from the men in his team. On his account, prodigious anecdotes spread over the neighborhood, and even criminals, which Spina can fight openly, being beaten without making a complaint, have learned to respect him. The murder of a Bengali rose seller, on Valentine's night in the heart of the neighborhood, attracts the attention of local journalists, among them the restless and inquisitive Anna Tarantini. Anna is a special correspondent of a famous TV programme and Piersanti's ex girlfriend. She breaks into the crime scene and into Spina's private life, too. Investigations into the past of the rose seller, an immigrant who arrived in Italy a few months before, soon reveal the most degraded side of the Roman suburbs, where the sale of yaba - a synthetic drug with devastating effects, coming from Asia - is spreading fast, and where the clash between cultures can turn into a violent struggle for survival. A sharply observed, character-driven noir laced with dark humour.

**DARIO SARDELLI** (1985) lives in Rome and works as a story editor for movies and television series. After graduating from Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Milan, he became a writer for some of the most important entertainment and satire programmes in the last years. His first novel, *Il venditore di rose* (*The Rose Seller*) has been published by Einaudi in 2021.



Einaudi Stile Libero

February, 2021

192 pages

**MEET A NEW ANTIHERO,  
FIGHTING CRIME IN ONE OF  
THE MOST MULTICULTURAL  
NEIGHBORHOODS IN ROME**

**“A bright and easy-going  
novel. Moving between  
pop language and a  
tight rhythm, avoiding  
commonplaces and  
clichés, within a few  
pages Sardelli manages  
to create a special  
niche for his protagonist  
in the noir novel scene.”**

IL MESSAGGERO

**ENGLISH TRANSLATION  
AVAILABLE**

s&pliterary

**FICTION**

# CHIARA SFREGOLA MY VERTICAL SUMMER

**A deconstructed, choral novel with seven narrators. A fragmentary coming-of-age novel. In the background, the film industry scene in Rome.**

**R**ome, 1967. Sara Mei is tired of being a child. The in-between land of middle school, where she has just arrived, is no longer enough for her. Her gaze points straight to the upper floors of the school, where the high school classes are. What fascinates her most is a group of bold girls, carriers of a femininity she did not yet know: a femininity that was not reassuring. One of them has a brother, Saverio. He is handsome, cultured, committed: impossible not to fall in love with him, even if he always seems lost in immense thoughts, or suspended between the notes of his piano. Courageous, full of irony, Sara throws herself without a safety net into the whirlwind of change that sweeps through society. She moves constantly from discos to film clubs, from the first awkward experiences with boys to family conflicts, she suffers and rejoices together with her friends. She lives an unrepeatably season, entertains, has fun, blossoms. And 1969 arrives. An incredible year, 1969. For the world it is the year of the moon landing, for Sara the year in which she discovers herself as grown up, for a generation, hers, the year in which illusions crumble in the roar of a bomb: the one in Piazza Fontana, in Milan, which opens the season of terrorism.

**“Brilliant prose, biting irony”**  
**HUFFINGTON POST**

**CHIARA SFREGOLA** (1987) worked as a producer in several TV series for Paramount+, Rai Fiction and Netflix and now she works as a screenwriter and director. She focuses on feminism and LGBT+ issues, and is a contributor for *Left*, *TPI*, *AUT magazine* and *L'Espresso*. Sfregola made her debut in fiction with *Camera Single* (Fanucci, 2016). She then published *Signorina* (Fandango Libri, 2020) winner of the Afrodite award as book of the year and *Stare al mondo*. Her latest publication is *Anna Castelli Ferrieri, a biography of the Milanese architect and designer* (Perrone Editore, 2023).



**Fandango Libri**

**November, 2023**

**238 pages**

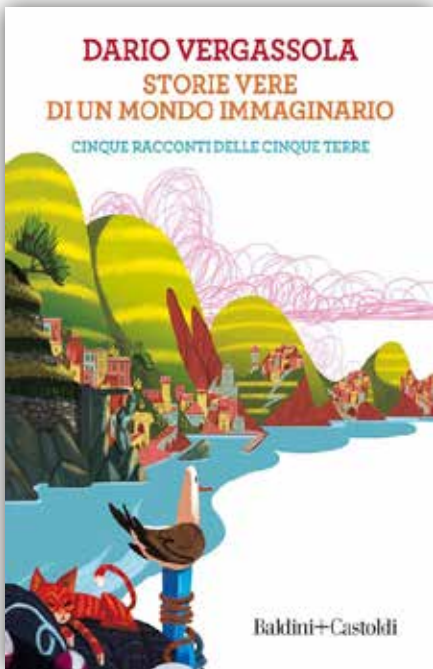
**“Sfregola’s writing  
infuses everyone,  
gay and non-gay,  
with the freedom  
and pride of  
being ourselves”**  
**CORRIERE DELLA SERA**

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS WITH  
CLEMENTINA LIUZZI  
LITERARY AGENCY**

**FILM RIGHTS AVAILABLE**

**s&pliterary**

**FICTION**



Baldini+Castoldi

March, 2021

128 pages with illustrations

***“Five beautiful stories featuring creatures which are symbols of our mother nature - a nature we love, but that we aren’t able to respect and protect”***

**LA REPUBBLICA**

**FRENCH MANUSCRIPT  
AVAILABLE**

# **DARIO VERGASSOLA** **TALES FROM CINQUE TERRE** **REAL STORIES FROM AN IMAGINARY WORLD**

**A collection of short stories, splendidly illustrated, combining irony with environmental awareness.**

**W**hat would a tadpole say to the arrogant man who makes all possible efforts to contaminate the water? And what do anchovies on a bar counter really think of this culinary tradition? In short, what life is like in this up-side-down world in which animals and sirens speak, complain about man, challenge him and oppose him? In these five stories full of delicate irony, poignant tenderness, funny and melancholic at the at the same time, pungent with social satire, the key figures are forgotten animals and legendary creatures of the sea: fish, squids, mermaids, anchovies and octopuses stage their impossible love stories, their ecologist struggles, the melancholy of being excluded, the desire to discover the world by throwing themselves in a thousand reckless adventures.

The result is a provocative and playful reversal of our certainties: Cinque Terre, usually crowded with tourists and fishermen, are transformed into a fabulous and ruthlessly true world, where legend is at home and where it’s possible to look at the world from another perspective.

***“Dario’s stories inspired me. They have the depth and inventiveness of Pinocchio. His chimeras of octopus-men and mermaids awaken the child in us. Reading them was consolatory, a reminder of our most essential nature: poetry and wonder.”***

**LUC JACQUET, OSCAR WINNER DIRECTOR OF  
“MARCH OF THE PENGUINS”**

**DARIO VERGASSOLA** born in Liguria, he is a comedian and songwriter. He took part in many tv shows and theatre plays. His books have been published by Mondadori, Salani and La Nave di Teseo.

s&pliterary

**FICTION**

# **NON FICTION BACKLIST**



Gribaudo

September, 2022

200 pages with illustrations

**AN ENVIRONMENTALLY  
CONSCIOUS BEGINNER'S  
GUIDE TO INDOOR  
GARDENING INFUSED  
WITH "FEEL GOOD"  
VIBES**

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS  
AVAILABLE:**

World excluding Spanish

## ANNACHIARA NAKI CHEMELLO GREEN SOULS HOW PLANTS CAN CONNECT US TO THE EARTH

**Taking care of our soul and giving space to contemplative time can change our individual existence. But it is not just a private matter, it also has an ethical and political meaning: a small and irrelevant change, when it becomes collective, can represent a real revolution.**

**From the preface by Maura Gancitano**

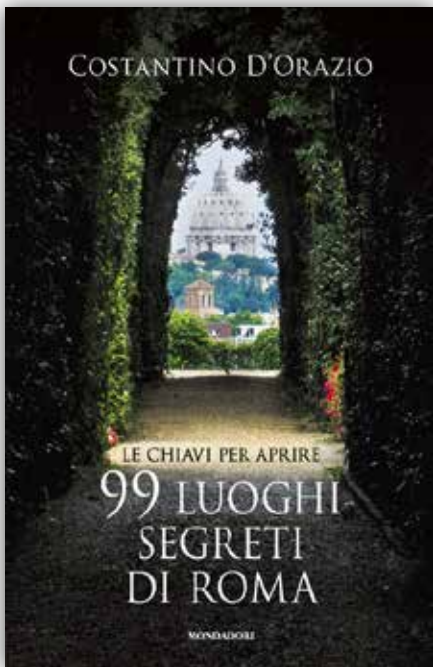
**F**or those who know how to listen to them, plants communicate a lot: they breathe together, they create shade or shelter, they become houses for animals and, according to recent studies, they help fight stress. This is where the idea of this book comes from: it's dedicated to the power of plants and how to understand them on a deeper, more intimate level.

We humans depend on plants, yet we do not recognize their importance or intelligence, because too often we consider them as second-class living creatures. Green souls, despite containing cards with practical advice that the author has experienced in the field, is not only a manual of techniques for cultivating healthy and happy plants, but it is also a testimony of how plants can become a "therapy", a medium of connection with the Earth, as well as a starting point for exploring issues such as inclusiveness, respect for diversity and love, not only for plants, but also for animals and those around us.

**ANNACHIARA CHEMELLO** was born in Padua in 1996. Notwithstanding her young age, she's been working as an activist for several years, dealing with issues such as environmental sustainability and the fight against climate change, inclusiveness, feminism and civil rights, well-being, self-care and nature. A digital content creator and life partner of dogs, rats, giant snails and an unknown number of plants, she runs a YouTube channel, *Naki*, which is a window on her world. *Green souls* is her first book.

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**NONFICTION**



Mondadori Electa

June, 2022

260 pages

NEW UPDATED EDITION

**BACKLIST TITLES SOLD TO:**

Japan (Kawade Shobo)  
Turkey (Dedalus, Ketebe)  
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Turkey (Epsilon)

**ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE**

# COSTANTINO D'ORAZIO

## 99 KEYS TO OPEN THE MOST SECRET PLACES IN ROME

**Discover the city as you have never seen it before.**

**W**alk through the Vatican Gardens and touch the volumes of the Pope's Secret Archives, go eight meters deep to admire the last fragment of the famous Horologium of Augustus, sit in Princess Isabella Colonna's living room and take a tour of the noble mansions of the most important Roman families. Experiences which could be accessible only to a few, but thanks to this book become within everyone's reach. Costantino D'Orazio, the first art historian to have led thousands of people to discover these sites, describes 99 places in Rome usually not open to the general audience, and shows us the way to unlock them, how to obtain permissions, request a visit, and so on. More than the usual guidebook, a title which is unique in its category, enriched with a beautifully illustrated section, *99 Keys* is a selection of palaces, archaeological sites and ancient monuments owned by the municipality or by private individuals who have become legendary due to their inaccessibility. The result is guaranteed: even the most secret treasures will be unveiled.

Dedicated to very curious and passionate lovers of the Eternal City.

**COSTANTINO D'ORAZIO** works as the Director of the National Museums of Umbria. He hosts the *AR-Frammenti d'Arte* series on RaiNews24 and he regularly collaborates with RaiUno. His previous works include: *Andare per ville e palazzi* (Il Mulino, 2015), *Vite di artiste eccellenti* (Laterza, 2021), *Le chiavi per aprire 99 luoghi segreti di Roma* (Mondadori, 2022), *Mistero Caravaggio* (BUR Rizzoli ragazzi, 2022), *Andare per piazze d'Italia* (Il Mulino, 2022) *I misteri dell'arte, dentro i capolavori* (Rizzoli, 2025). *Sfida per la bellezza* (Il Mulino, 2025) is his latest work.

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# COSTANTINO D'ORAZIO

## LIVES OF EXCELLENT FEMALE ARTISTS

**From ancient Greece to the present day, women have painted, sculpted, decorated. The names of many of them have been unfairly forgotten. The time has come to bring them back to light.**

**I**n ancient Greece female artists decorated palaces and left traces of their work. During the Middle Ages, mostly considered a period in which women did not enjoy any social prominence, many works were born thanks to female dexterity, which could be expressed above all in convents. However, the explosion of female art dates back to the Renaissance, when some artists came to occupy important positions in the most prestigious courts in Europe, enjoying a reputation equal to their male colleagues. We have to wait until the end of the Nineteenth century to see works of female artists included in exhibitions: most of the time, they are muses or partners of famous artists, other times they are women capable of imposing their personality as well as their talent. They are the forerunners of a phenomenon that will become unstoppable over the course of the Twentieth century: female artists will sign the posters of the historical avant-gardes and will be increasingly protagonists until in the second part of the century they overtake their colleagues in terms of fame and market value. The Lives of the Most Excellent Sculptors, Painters and Architects is the title of the famous work by Giorgio Vasari which, in the Renaissance, constituted a real canon.

Today Costantino D'Orazio honors the many excellent artists whose canons have too often been forgotten.

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Costantino  
D'Orazio



*Vite  
di artiste  
eccellenti*

Editori  Laterza

Laterza

June, 2021

260 pages

### PREVIOUS TITLES SOLD TO:

Japan (Kawade Shobo)  
Turkey (Dedalus, Ketebe)  
Russia (Eksmo)  
France (Dunod/Armand Colin)  
Romania (Corint)

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**NONFICTION**

# COSTANTINO D'ORAZIO THE VAN GOGH MYSTERY

If you're looking for a portrait of van Gogh far from stereotypes, if you think that a masterpiece comes from a struggle and not from mere improvisation, if the "genius and folly" combination didn't really convince you...

**This is the book you should read.**

**W**as van Gogh really a neglected painter, a rejection of society? How is it possible that an artist capable of achieving huge quotations nowadays, never managed to find admirers and collectors to buy his paintings during his lifetime? To answer these questions, Costantino D'Orazio carried out a unique investigation. In the middle of last century, Vincent Jr, Theo van Gogh's son, left a diary in which he recounts the career, the choices and the torments of his illustrious uncle through a very personal and controversial perspective. This book has been inspired by Vincent Jr's words, and by the journey that actually took place in 1949, when he visited the crucial places of his uncle's career: he went to Brabant, Belgium, and then to Paris and Provence. He confronted the few survivors who met the artist, and he looked for details which might help to answer those questions that no one had ever answered before. Among explosions of colors, discussions with the family, friends and lovers met on Vincent's restless path, D'Orazio reveals the most fascinating secrets hidden in the hallucinated night landscapes and in the brightly colored fields, he gets into the branches of the deformed olive trees and meets the gaze of the inhabitants of Provence of the late nineteenth century. A survey that, in a narrative tone, questions the image of the mad genius, giving us back Vincent's vision of the world and shedding light upon the van Gogh mystery.

**COSTANTINO D'ORAZIO** works as the Director of the National Museums of Umbria. He hosts the *AR-Frammenti d'Arte* series on RaiNews24 and he regularly collaborates with RaiUno. His previous works include: *Andare per ville e palazzi* (Il Mulino, 2015), *Vite di artiste eccellenti* (Laterza, 2021), *Le chiavi per aprire 99 luoghi segreti di Roma* (Mondadori, 2022), *Mistero Caravaggio* (BUR Rizzoli ragazzi, 2022), *Andare per piazze d'Italia* (Il Mulino, 2022) *I misteri dell'arte, dentro i capolavori* (Rizzoli, 2025). *Sfida per la bellezza* (Il Mulino, 2025) is his latest work.



Sperling & Kupfer

October, 2019

256 pages

***“D’Orazio discovered another possible truth. His was an authentic close investigation, the result of two years of work on the correspondence between Vincent and his family. Hidden in those pages, the key clues to decipher van Gogh’s personal and artistic identity. As in a classic detective story, the ending cannot be spoiled”***

**IL MESSAGGERO**

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Russia (Eksmo/Bombora)  
Turkey (Ketebe)

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# COSTANTINO D'ORAZIO

## HISTORY OF ART IN SIX EMOTIONS

**An interesting key to read art from a different angle.**

**H**istory of Art can be told in many different ways: through styles, techniques, trends, languages. But probably one of the most convincing and impressive ones is the analysis of the emotions that paintings and sculptures tried to describe. In all ages, artists have been great psychologists: they studied the human soul in every detail, in the effort of creating a direct connection between the piece of art and the viewer.

The emotions are the most direct device to communicate through art. From archaeological remains to Renaissance masterpieces, art offers a clash of emotions. Without the urgency of getting lost into academic and historical mechanisms, the book displays five pieces of art for each emotion. Every piece has been selected with the purpose of describing an emotion in the most complete and fascinating way, also including details on the artist and his relationship with the emotion he described. We'll discover that Leonardo, for instance, has been the first one to put "the struggles of the soul" at the centre of the creative process, defining them as a testing ground for every young artist. Munch and Klimt's nightmares will meet Caravaggio's portraits, Bernini's inventions will come to terms with Hayez and Manet's desires.

***Be ready to read about history of art from a new point of view.***

**COSTANTINO D'ORAZIO** works as the Director of the National Museums of Umbria. He hosts the *AR-Frammenti d'Arte* series on RaiNews24 and he regularly collaborates with RaiUno. His previous works include: *Andare per ville e palazzi* (Il Mulino, 2015), *Vite di artiste eccellenti* (Laterza, 2021), *Le chiavi per aprire 99 luoghi segreti di Roma* (Mondadori, 2022), *Mistero Caravaggio* (BUR Rizzoli ragazzi, 2022), *Andare per piazze d'Italia* (Il Mulino, 2022) *I misteri dell'arte, dentro i capolavori* (Rizzoli, 2025). *Sfida per la bellezza* (Il Mulino, 2025) is his latest work.



Laterza

November, 2018

204 pages illustrated

**THE BOOK IS DIVIDED INTO SIX CHAPTERS DEDICATED TO SIX SPECIFIC EMOTIONS, WITH COMMENTARIES ON FIVE DIFFERENT PIECES OF ART. HAPPINESS, DELIRIUM, DESIRE, AMAZEMENT, DOUBT, TORMENT.**

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS SOLD TO:**

TRANSLATION RIGHTS SOLD TO  
Russia (Eksmo)  
Turkey (Ketebe)  
China (Phoenix-Power Cultural Development)  
Romania (Baroque)

**ENGLISH EXCERPT AVAILABLE**

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**NONFICTION**



Sperling & Kupfer

April, 2017

224 pages illustrated

## COSTANTINO D'ORAZIO RAFFAELLO REVEALED

**R**affaello Sanzio died at 37, but he became an immortal artist. This is a celebration of his genius as a painter and architect, a fascinating voyage through his masterpieces, discovering details with amazing meanings. From the Marriage of the Virgin to the Vatican Secret Rooms, learning to stare at these incredible pieces of art with new eyes.

*“The author is an explorer:  
he comes across at every page.  
And it’s great to travel by his side”*

**CORRIERE DELLA SERA**

TRANSLATION RIGHTS SOLD TO:  
Japan (Kawade Shobo) and Russia

## COSTANTINO D'ORAZIO THE SECRET ROME OF THE MOVIE THE GREAT BEAUTY

**D**'Orazio guides the reader through the sites of Paolo Sorrentino's movie revealing their charming secrets. He has explored his city for years, probing its most magical and unknown places, delving into its soul which remains invisible to the tourist's eye. In his book, he takes us by the hand and accompanies us on a journey to the film's locations, revealing them with the passion and accuracy of a true connoisseur. A must for all those viewers who loved the film and for those wishing to see the city through new eyes. An invitation to truly savour the Great Beauty of the most gorgeous city in the world.

ENGLISH EXCERPT AVAILABLE



Sperling & Kupfer

2014

95 pages

s&p literary

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## COSTANTINO D'ORAZIO CARAVAGGIO REVEALED

**A** new interpretation of Caravaggio's art to shed a light on his shadows. He never painted for money: his only aim was to conquer immortality, which requires much more than just talent. Thus, to truly understand him, we need to set aside orthodox interpretations, in order to unveil the many hints and enigmas interspersed on the canvas. Taking into account the latest discoveries on the artist, this book is an intriguing and riveting journey to the discovery of the most unconventional of Italian masters.

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Lithuania (Tyto Alba)

### ENGLISH EXCERPT AVAILABLE



Sperling & Kupfer

2013

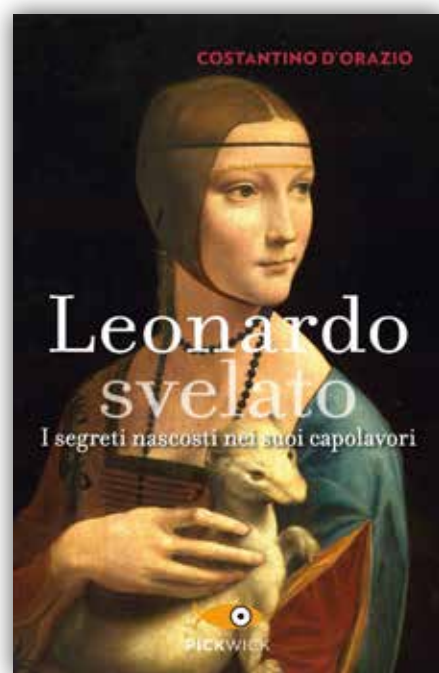
208 pages illustrated

## COSTANTINO D'ORAZIO LEONARDO REVEALED (NEW EDITION)

**P**ainter, sculptor, inventor. Scientist, musician, architect. Leonardo da Vinci is considered one of the biggest geniuses of humankind, but he is still to this day one of the most elusive figures in history. There are many questions which hang around him, and the life and works of da Vinci are a rebus that Costantino D'Orazio deciphers in his book with a new key, using the Ariadne thread to explore the maze-like mind of the artist. A new, extended edition of the 2014 bestseller Leonardo Revealed, published for the 500th anniversary of Leonardo da Vinci's death.

### TRANSLATION RIGHTS SOLD TO:

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France (Dunod/Armand Colin) and Romania (Corint)



Sperling & Kupfer

2019

256 pages illustrated

s&p literary

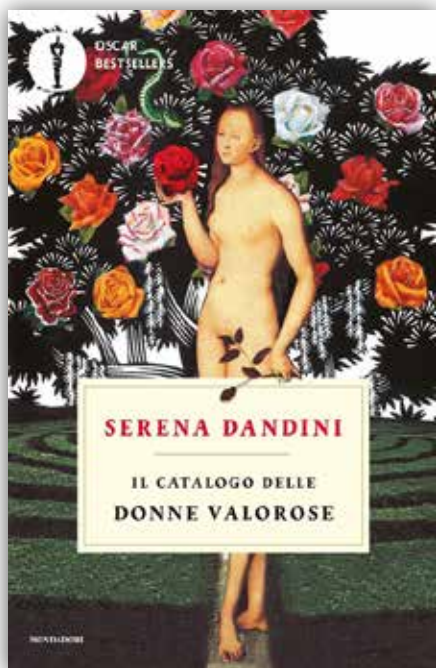
NONFICTION

# SERENA DANDINI NEW CATALOGUE OF VALOROSE WOMEN

**From Jeanne Moreau to Vanessa Bell, from Angela Davis to Josephine Bonaparte, an encyclopedia of roses inspired by great women of all times.**

**I**t's easy for a woman to be valorous. It only takes to get children, house and work together to deserve a medal. But in the last centuries of human history, no hymn or podium is celebrating any of these winners. It's the same old story, and many distinguished scholars already wrote about this. Women often contributed to the evolution of the human race in different fields, from science to politics, from art to literature. Notwithstanding this, they're remembered very rarely. The idea of this socio-botanical encyclopedia came from the author's curiosity as a gardener, which made her discover that plenty of new roses have been named after valorous women. So nurserymen and rose hybridizers did more than scholars and academics did: they decided to honor famous or unknown heroines by simply dedicating beautiful flowers to them. How can you resist a Jacqueline du Pré, a beautiful rose whose name is inspired by the legendary and misfortunate cellist? From this simple statement Serena Dandini got the idea of writing a little catalogue of valorous women, and when she couldn't find a dedicated rose, she dared to get an inspiration from nature, and matched a flower to a woman. It's a personal choice, a botanical game, and a homage to courage at the same time. Roses, as well as women, are strong, with good roots, they face and overcome adversities. So the author kindly invites you to decorate your own gardens with these breeds.

**SERENA DANDINI** a very eclectic writer, she also contributes to magazines, TV and radio. Her debut as an author, *Dai diamanti non nasce niente*, received critical and public acclaim. In later years, she published *Grazie per quella volta*, *Ferite a morte* (a collection of monologues against femicide), *Avremo sempre Parigi* (published in German by Random House DE) and *Il futuro di una volta*. All her backlist titles have been published by Rizzoli. Her latest titles, *Catalogo delle donne valorose* (Mondadori, 2018) *La vasca del Fuhrer* (Einaudi, 2020), *La vendetta delle Muse* (HarperCollins Italia, 2023) sold more than 70.000 copies.



Mondadori

May, 2018

256 pages illustrated

Ilaria Alpi - Josephine Baker  
- Barbara - Vanessa Bell -  
Annie Besant - Karen Blixen  
- Nellie Bly - Josephine  
Bonaparte - Betty Boop -  
Angela Davis - Olympe de  
Gouges - Grazia Deledda  
- Phoolan Devi - Consuelo  
de Saint-Exupéry - Cristina  
di Belgioioso - Jacqueline  
du Pré - Emma Goldman -  
Alice Guy - Emma Hamilton  
- Ipazia - Carla Lonzi -  
Wangari Maathai - Miriam  
Makeba - Irma Bandiera  
- Maryam Mirzakhani -  
Jeanne Moreau - Kasha  
Jacqueline Nabagesera  
- Anna Pavlova - Qin Jin -  
Sophie Scholl - Kathrine  
Switzer - Tania the Guerrilla  
Fighter - Chavela Vargas -  
Monica Vitti

s&pliterary

NONFICTION

# SERENA DANDINI

## WE'LL ALWAYS HAVE PARIS

### SENTIMENTAL STROLLS IN ALPHABETICAL DISORDER

**Journalist and tv personality Serena Dandini takes us by the hand and leads us through an affectionate homage to la Ville Lumière in a beautifully illustrated.**

**T**his is an amorous alphabet, through which we are led by Serena Dandini: from A for Arrondissement to Z for Zinc, passing by G for Gare, M for Muri (Walls) and V for Verne. This is an entertaining and unpredictable stroll through the author's favorite city. At every corner, her passions reveal suggestions, stories, memorable characters and secret places worth visiting at the earliest opportunity or just fantasizing about without leaving one's couch. A particular street in Montparnasse which was transformed into a beach by a French New Wave pioneer; the bistros where Hemingway and Fitzgerald confessed their deepest woes to each other; the gardens created to satisfy the whims of a queen or based on the hunch of a banker-philosopher; the new street art...

Like the characters in Casablanca, we, too, «*will always have Paris*», a city that is still surprisingly beautiful and able to stand up again and again, even in tough times such as these. This book is a literary adventure full of joie de vivre, a well-deserved tribute to a unique city.

**SERENA DANDINI** a very eclectic writer, she also contributes to magazines, TV and radio. Her debut as an author, *Dai diamanti non nasce niente*, received critical and public acclaim. In later years, she published *Grazie per quella volta*, *Ferite a morte* (a collection of monologues against femicide), *Avremo sempre Parigi* (published in German by Random House DE) and *Il futuro di una volta*. All her backlist titles have been published by Rizzoli. Her latest titles, *Catalogo delle donne valorose* (Mondadori, 2018) *La vasca del Fuhrer* (Einaudi, 2020), *La vendetta delle Muse* (HarperCollins Italia, 2023) sold more than 70.000 copies.



Rizzoli

November, 2016

430 pages illustrated

Winner of the  
*Cesare Pavese Award 2017*

**“The whole book is a declaration of the author’s love for Paris. Being a true Parisian, fortunately, is not about being born or living in the city; it’s all about style, a specific disposition, almost a spiritual attitude”**

LA REPUBBLICA

**RIGHTS SOLD TO:**

Germany (Random House btb)

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**NONFICTION**

# SERENA DANDINI WOUNDED TO DEATH

From the internationally acclaimed stage play, a modern all women's *Spoon River*: the voices too many women have lost, the dreams too many men have destroyed.

**I**n these monologues originally written for theatrical performance, women who were victims of murder regain their voices to tell their truths. One woman, her body unceremoniously dumped in a well by her husband, laments the police force's halfhearted investigation of her murder. Another, forced to toil ceaselessly for a meager few euros per month, grows weary of enduring daily beatings and attempted rape and hangs herself from a crystal chandelier. Inspired by true events, these monologues represent what the victims of femicide might say, had they not been robbed of their voices.

First staged as a play in 2012 in Palermo and subsequently in a world tour from Lisbon to London, New York and Mexico City, *Wounded to Death* has taken Italy and the world by storm. Alongside the powerfully imagined speeches in this edition, Serena Dandini presents the grim global statistics of violence against women, with her exceptional capacity for creating nuanced emotions, from comic to painful, from grotesque to dramatic. With a factual basis and cinematic flair, these works compel the reader to consider the violence that is taking place right now all over the world.

**SERENA DANDINI** a very eclectic writer, she also contributes to magazines, TV and radio. Her debut as an author, *Dai diamanti non nasce niente*, received critical and public acclaim. In later years, she published *Grazie per quella volta*, *Ferite a morte* (a collection of monologues against femicide), *Avremo sempre Parigi* (published in German by Random House DE) and *Il futuro di una volta*. All her backlist titles have been published by Rizzoli. Her latest titles, *Catalogo delle donne valorose* (Mondadori, 2018) *La vasca del Fuhrer* (Einaudi, 2020), *La vendetta delle Muse* (HarperCollins Italia, 2023) sold more than 70.000 copies.



Rizzoli

2013

216 pages

Manuscripts  
available in  
English, French,  
Polish, German,  
Arabic, Turkish

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(Presses Universitaires du  
Midi - PUM)

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NONFICTION



Einaudi

May, 2022

182 pages

More than **30.000** copies sold

**“This book helps to cross the mirror that traps us and to discover us as thinking subjects, and not as mere objects of the appreciation of others”**

**GRAZIA**

**“A fundamental reading to understand how social media transformed aesthetic standards into a true dictatorship”**

**CORRIERE DELLA SERA**

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Brazil (Âyiné)

China (Beijing United Creadion Culture Media)

Romania (For You) Spain (Ático de los Libros)

France (Nid-de-Pie)

Winner of the  
**Rapallo Award 2022**

# MAURA GANCITANO

## MIRROR, MIRROR ON THE WALL. THE PRISON OF BEAUTY

**A short but poignant essay on beauty and the female body, as conditioned and perceived along the centuries, by the philosopher and communicator co-founder of Tlon.**

**T**he idea that beauty is something objective and natural is a modern belief: in fact, there has never been an era in which aesthetics wasn't taken into consideration. The myth of beauty became a prison only in recent times, due to the exposure of the body in cinema, media and advertising that ended up exercising a psychological, economic and existential power over women first, and now on almost every person. Beauty is a standardized and prescriptive model that colonizes time and thoughts, often making people feel inadequate. It is true that philosophers, artists and poets have tried to develop a precise canon over the centuries, progressively focusing the reflection on beauty on the female body. It was, however, an idea of beauty as seen through man's point of view, and the debate was confined among scholars, without great relevance in people's daily life. It is only in recent times, when coercions towards women have been eased, that the aesthetic canon has become stiff and suffocating, pushing them in search of unattainable perfection. The result is that we live in a time where people may finally be free, but where, on the contrary, they gain value and dignity only when certain standards are met. Maura Gancitano tells the story of a myth as old as the world and shows us how the discoveries of philosophy, anthropology, social psychology and science can destroy an illusion that still prevents us from listening and following our authentic desires and living our bodies freely.

**MAURA GANCITANO** is an Italian philosopher and writer. With her husband Andrea Colamedici she co-founded Tlon, a school of philosophy that also runs a publishing house and a theatre bookshop in Rome. She brings philosophy into public debate through lectures and podcasts, focusing on feminism, education, desire, and the ways culture shapes identity, love and relationships. Her essays blend storytelling with critique, from beauty myths to work culture. Selected books: *Liberati della brava bambina* (2019, HarperCollins); *Specchio delle mie brame* (2022, Einaudi); *Ma chi me lo fa fare?* (2023, HarperCollins); *Erotica dei sentimenti* (2024, Einaudi); *Botanica della meraviglia* (2025, HarperCollins).

s&pliterary

**NONFICTION**

# MAURA GANCITANO AND ANDREA COLAMEDICI THE DAWN OF THE NEW GODS. FROM PLATO TO BIG DATA

**In times of crisis and transformation like the one we are experiencing, philosophy can help us answer the most urgent questions. We just need to question it.**

**P**hilosophers and writers Andrea Colamedici and Maura Gancitano connect our present with the Athens of the fifth century BC, they question the thinkers of the classical age, but not only, on the issues of contemporary debate. And they ask, for example, what the Sophists would say about echo chambers, whose dynamic of identity and exclusion is reminiscent of that of the Greek poleis, Athens in particular, where women, slaves and foreigners had no “right to citizenship”. Or what parallelism can be found between the introduction of the hypomnemata, the notebooks that disrupted the lives of the Greeks at the time of Plato, and the advent of the smartphone. According to the authors, just as Socrates and Plato saw writing supplant orality and witnessed the demise of the mythical world, so today we are faced with the advance of the digital, which is once again revolutionizing communication, heralding the dawn of new gods. And social media, far from being mere places of entertainment, embody the human being’s attempt to overcome the atomistic self and create a new kind of collective consciousness. Heraclitus said that you can’t go down the same river twice, as everything is constantly changing. Yet some events are repeated throughout history and much can be learned by learning to recognize the similarities between them. Colamedici and Gancitano show us this, confirming that philosophy can not only help us better understand the present, but also reinvent it.

**MAURA GANCITANO AND ANDREA COLAMEDICI** philosophers and writers, are the creators of Tlon, a school of philosophy, a publishing house and a theater bookshop. Their most successful and translated titles are *Liberati della brava bambina* (Harper Collins 2019) and *Prendila con Filosofia* (Harper Collins 2021). They host podcasts for Audible and are the creators of the Festa della Filosofia and the online marathon *Take it with Philosophy*.



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