



AC² Literary Agency

AGENCY BACKLIST

Fall 2026

Adult fiction and nonfiction, YA

www.ac2.eu/en



THE BLACK SEA OF INDIFFERENCE

Liliana Segre, edited by Giuseppe Civati

110 pp. | 2019 | Memoir / History / Civil Rights | Italy (People)

- 8,500 copies sold; entered the Italian Non-Fiction Top Ten immediately upon publication
- The testimony and words of Auschwitz survivor Liliana Segre, appointed Senator for Life in Italy in 2018
- A powerful reflection on memory and racism, addressed especially to younger generations

Drawing on Liliana Segre's speeches, interviews and public testimony, Giuseppe Civati reconstructs both her personal story and the ideas she has developed through decades of encounters with younger generations. Expelled from school under the Italian racial laws, Segre later attempted to flee to Switzerland, was turned back, arrested and eventually deported to Auschwitz with her father. At the heart of the book is Segre's reflection on indifference: the process through which discrimination can gradually become normalized when people stop reacting to the suffering of others. Moving between Holocaust memory and the present, the book preserves her words as a warning about language, responsibility and the importance of defending human dignity and democratic rights



THE HEART IS ON THE LEFT

Laura Campiglio

128 pp. | 2023 | Relationships / Cultural History | Italy (People)

- Morante and Moravia, Sartre and de Beauvoir, King and Scott, Iotti and Togliatti, Sontag and Leibovitz, Kahlo and Rivera
- Six legendary relationships revisited with humour, irreverence and an eye for the very human failures behind the myth
- Laura Campiglio combines literary storytelling with years of experience writing an advice column about relationships

Some of the twentieth century's most celebrated cultural and political figures also created some of its most unconventional couples. Laura Campiglio revisits six iconic relationships—from Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera to Susan Sontag and Annie Leibovitz—looking beyond their legendary status to the experiments, betrayals, compromises and contradictions that shaped their private lives. Playful rather than reverential, the book dismantles the mythology surrounding these famous couples and replaces it with intimate, recognizably human portraits. Their lives may have been exceptional, but their desires, jealousies, failures and attempts to reinvent love remain surprisingly familiar.



SEX AND THE CLIMATE

What Nobody Has Told You About Climate Change

176 pp. | 2022 | Popular Science / Climate / Sexuality | Italy (People)

- An unexpected and highly accessible approach to climate change through its connections with sex, desire and human relationships
- Combines scientific research with journalism, books, music and popular culture, with a strong vein of humour
- Caserini is an environmental engineer and climate mitigation specialist who teaches at the Politecnico di Milano

Thousands of scientific studies examine the environmental, economic and social consequences of climate change—but comparatively little attention is paid to its relationship with intimacy, desire and the ways human beings connect with one another. Stefano Caserini sets out to investigate this unlikely intersection.

Drawing on scientific papers as well as newspapers, books, songs and online culture, *Sex and the Climate* explores the conflicts and surprising connections between eros and a warming planet. Mixing research with curiosity and humour, Caserini considers how intimate life might adapt to climate change—and whether our relationships can become part of the way we think about adaptation and mitigation.



(IT) WASN'T MY FAULT

Alessio Avellino

224 pp. | 2024 | Memoir / Gender / LGBTQ+ | Italy (People)

- A first-person memoir of gender affirmation by a trans man serving in the Italian State Police
- Family, relationships, masculinity and professional life come together in an unusual perspective on personal transition

In this intimate first-person narrative, Alessio Avellino retraces the experiences that shaped his gender identity, from family relationships and emotional life to his experience within the Italian State Police. What initially appears as a story about guilt gradually becomes a story of self-understanding and personal growth.

Avellino approaches transition not as a fixed destination but as an ongoing process of becoming. Drawing on his experience as both a trans man and a police officer, he explores gender, masculinity, emotional awareness and social expectations while opening the story outward to a broader question: how much of every identity is a continuous process of transformation?



FLIGHT OF CHANCE

Filippo Tuena

176 pp. | 2023 | Literary / Noir Fiction | Italy
(TerraRossa Edizioni)

- By Premio Viareggio, Premio Bagutta and Grinzane Cavour winner Filippo Tuena
- Paris in the 1990s, a mysterious woman, an obsessive love triangle and a ghostly atmosphere blending noir and metaphysical fiction
- Originally published by Longanesi in 1994 and later by Fazi; newly republished by TerraRossa

A man unexpectedly receives a manuscript written by his missing brother. What follows is the manuscript itself: the story of an obsessive relationship with Blanche, an elusive woman whose presence seems almost spectral, and of the narrator's attempts to reconstruct her past and insert himself into a dangerous love triangle.

Set in a shadowy 1990s Paris populated by collectors, journalists, adventurers and detectives, *Flight of Chance* combines noir, mystery and the supernatural in a meditation on desire, missed opportunities and the impossibility of controlling the stories into which we are drawn.



THE OUTRAGED

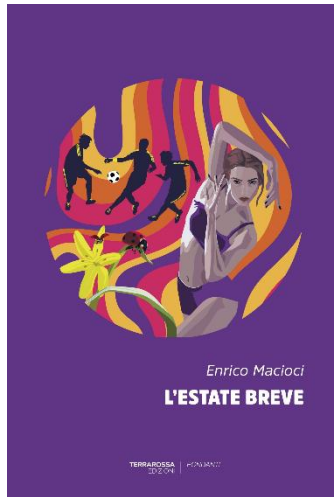
Giuliana Zeppigno

256 pp. | 2024 | Literary / Social Fiction | Italy
(TerraRossa Edizioni)

- #5 in *L'Indiscreto* quality chart; Book of the Day on RAI Radio 3's *Fahrenheit*
- Set in Madrid between 2011 and 2014, during the Puerta del Sol protests and the rise of anti-capitalist, feminist and environmental collectives
- A mystery and social novel told through a shifting collective "we", exploring the tension between individual desires and political commitment

Teresa, rebellious and defiant, has disappeared. Yet the real protagonist of the novel is the community she leaves behind: Andrés, Giulia and David, three friends whose lives unfold in Madrid during the years of demonstrations, occupations and grassroots political movements that followed the 2011 Puerta del Sol protests.

As the mystery of Teresa's disappearance develops, private frustrations, relationships and ambitions become inseparable from the collective ideals that have brought the group together. Combining mystery with social fiction, the novel explores what happens when the desire to change the world collides with the demands of individual life.



THAT SHORT SUMMER

Enrico Macioci

128 pp. | 2024 | Literary Fiction / Coming of Age | Italy (TerraRossa Edizioni)

- #27 in *L'Indiscreto* quality chart
- Football, writing and adolescence: a coming-of-age novel about talent, ambition and the dreams we eventually leave behind
- A new rewriting of *Breve storia del talento*, originally published by Mondadori in 2015

The young narrator feels awkward among his peers and uncertain about his passion for writing, but he possesses one undeniable talent: he is an exceptionally gifted football player. When Michele arrives in his neighbourhood, however, he is forced to reconsider both his ambitions and his understanding of what talent really means.

Looking back on the brief, intense season between childhood and adolescence, the novel explores desire, rivalry and the strange persistence of youthful dreams. A melancholic story about the moment when possibility begins to meet reality—and memory starts transforming the life we once imagined for ourselves.

NICOLA RUBINO STARTS WORKING IN A FACTORY
Francesco Dezio

174 pp. | 2017 | Literary / Social Fiction | Italy (TerraRossa Edizioni)

- Previous edition published by Feltrinelli; 10,000 copies sold
- A landmark Italian novel about precarious employment, factory work and the transformation of an idealistic young man into a cog in the system
- Blends fiction, testimony and an inventive language combining literary prose with workplace slang

Thirty-year-old Nicola Rubino begins as an intern in a large company and gradually makes his way toward a fixed-term factory job. What initially appears to be an opportunity becomes a process of erosion: the rebellious, idealistic young man slowly learns what it means to become part of a system built on insecurity, hierarchy and frustrated ambition.

Combining first-hand realism with linguistic experimentation, the novel moves beyond a simple denunciation of working conditions to portray the emotional lives of those inside them. A sharp anti-Bildungsroman about labour, exploitation and the compromises demanded by contemporary working life.





HEARTS OF FOG

Licia Giaquinto

208 pp. | 2022 | Noir / Literary Fiction | Italy
(TerraRossa Edizioni)

- #20 in *L'Indiscreto* quality ranking
- A bleak, polyphonic noir set in the fog-shrouded Emilian plain of the late 1990s
- Licia Giaquinto has previously published with Feltrinelli, Adelphi and Marsilio

In the Emilian plain of the late 1990s, fog, isolation and moral decay form the backdrop to a group of lives brought together by chance. Filippo visits brothels, his wife Mirella is strangely relieved by it, Nicola spies on couples, Natascia uses lies and desire as weapons, Francesco and Patrizia flirt with death, while Mirco moves through the night with a guilty innocence. Each character is driven by a vice, an obsession or a private form of desperation, and their stories gradually converge around violence and death. A harsh, atmospheric noir without redemption, *Hearts of Fog* turns the provincial landscape between Modena and Bologna into a moral geography of secrecy, desire and self-destruction.



ROGOZOV

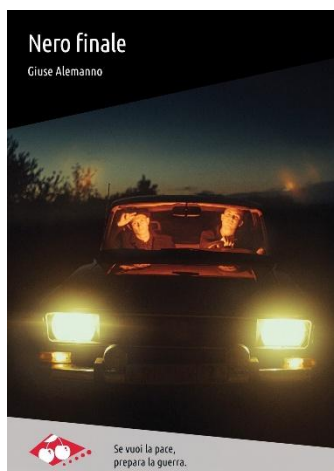
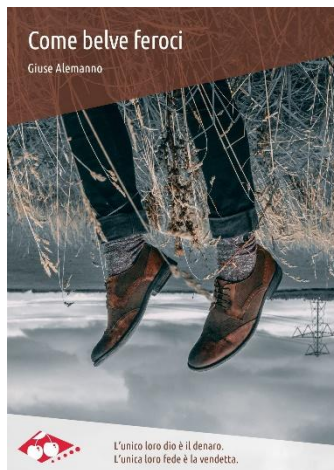
Mauro Maraschi

246 pp. | 2021 | Literary Fiction | Italy
(TerraRossa Edizioni)

- Selected by the jury of the Premio Campiello 2022; #11 in *L'Indiscreto* quality ranking
- A darkly comic portrait of a health fanatic obsessed with nature, self-healing and his own version of the truth
- An unreliable protagonist who constantly blurs the line between victimhood, manipulation and self-deception

Ruggero Gargano is a troubled father obsessed with nature, alternative cures and self-healing. Desperate to help his sick daughter, he follows his beliefs to increasingly extreme conclusions, while constantly struggling for money and against the people he blames for his problems.

Told through Ruggero's own account, *Rogozov* makes it increasingly difficult to distinguish truth from manipulation. Grotesque, compulsive and sharply contemporary, the novel explores self-deception, conspiracy thinking and the seductive certainty of believing only in one's own version of reality.



THE SARMENTA TRILOGY

Giuse Alemanno

COME BELVE FEROCI

321 pp. | 2nd edition 2022 | Crime / Pulp Noir | Italy (Las Vegas Edizioni)

MATTANZA

350 pp. | 2019 | Crime / Pulp Noir | Italy (Las Vegas Edizioni)

NERO FINALE

251 pp. | 2022 | Crime / Pulp Noir | Italy (Las Vegas Edizioni)

AUDIO RIGHTS ITALIAN SOLD

- A complete three-volume crime saga of family revenge, 'Ndrangheta, corruption and criminal power across southern and northern Italy
- A cinematic pulp noir, combining extreme violence with black humour and a strong relationship between two radically different cousins
- A distinctly Italian crime epic with echoes of Sergio Leone and Tarantino, moving from rural Puglia to Val Camonica, Milan and Calabri

In the fictional town of Oppido Messapico, Costantino Ròchira and his men attempt to wipe out the Sarmenta family over money and connections with the 'Ndrangheta. The massacre is incomplete: Massimo "Mattanza" Sarmenta, his cousin Santo and two relatives survive, disappear from their old lives and flee north. From their refuge in Val Camonica, Massimo and Santo begin planning revenge. Their pursuit gradually expands into a journey through the Italian criminal underworld. In Milan, Santo enters a private clinic whose respectable appearance conceals illicit trafficking, while Massimo remains obsessed with avenging his murdered family. Their search eventually leads them to Calabria and to Ciro Barrese, a powerful figure whose ambitions reach far beyond the original family feud. Across three novels, personal vengeance becomes entangled with organised crime, money, healthcare, loyalty and the changing structures of the 'Ndrangheta.

CARLO CALLEGARI

THE GANG OF THREE

256 pp. | 2013 | Pulp / Crime Comedy | Italy
(TimeCrime)

- 11,000 copies printed; 4,000 copies sold in the first three months
- First in a three-book pulp-noir series combining crime, action and black comedy
- Adapted into a feature film, currently available on Prime Video

Claudio Bambola is an undercover narcotics officer in Padua, about to complete the operation that could finally change his life: the seizure of twenty kilos of pure cocaine. But when a gang of Russian mobsters crashes the deal, everything falls apart. To survive, Claudio is forced to seek help from two men he was supposed to arrest: Tony Piccolo, a drug dealer and gunslinger, and Silvano "Boa" Magagnin, a former addict turned burglar with a permanent religious crisis.

Car chases, shootouts and criminal schemes unfold against the backdrop of Padua by night in a fast-moving pulp comedy that constantly pushes the thriller toward the grotesque. For readers of Joe R. Lansdale and crime fiction with a taste for outrageous characters and black humour.

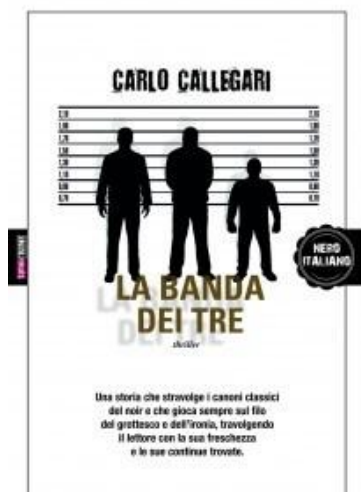
THE RETURN OF THE GANG OF THREE

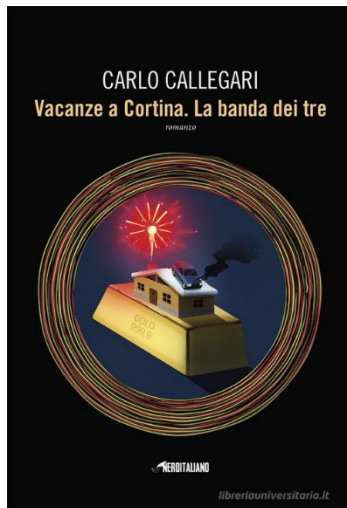
272 pp. | 2014 | Pulp / Crime Comedy | Italy
(TimeCrime)

- Second instalment in *The Gang of Three* series
- Crime, revenge and black comedy populated by a new cast of eccentric criminals
- A young girl caught in a vendetta forces the gang back into the criminal world they thought they had escaped

Two years after their escape from Padua, the gang seems to have found peace. Silvano is working as a cook in a monastery, while Claudio and Tony run a newspaper kiosk in Tuscany. But an unexpected visitor forces them back to Padua, where unfinished business from their past has returned—and the life of a young girl is being used as a bargaining chip.

Facing a vengeful crime family, the trio enters another world of guns, bizarre alliances and surreal characters, from a loan-sharking hairdresser to circus clowns and an eccentric nightclub owner. A violent, irreverent black comedy in which thriller mechanics continually collide with absurdity.





HOLIDAYS IN CORTINA. THE GANG OF THREE

240 pp. | 2020 | Pulp / Crime Comedy | Italy (TimeCrime)

- Third adventure of the eccentric trio introduced in The Gang of Three
- The glamorous Dolomites become the setting for a violent and surreal criminal investigation
- Action, black humour and family dynamics in a story moving from Cortina to Milan and Ibiza

Tony, Claudio and Silvano reunite for what should be a peaceful August holiday with their partners and children in Cortina d'Ampezzo. Predictably, they fail to stay out of trouble. A seemingly absurd investigation soon turns increasingly dark, helped along by Ida, a fearless journalist who becomes involved with the group.

Between Cortina, Milan and Ibiza, improbable funerals, failed schemes and increasingly dangerous discoveries turn a family holiday into another explosive adventure. The series' trademark blend of action, grotesque humour and eccentric characters returns with a larger—and increasingly female—cast.

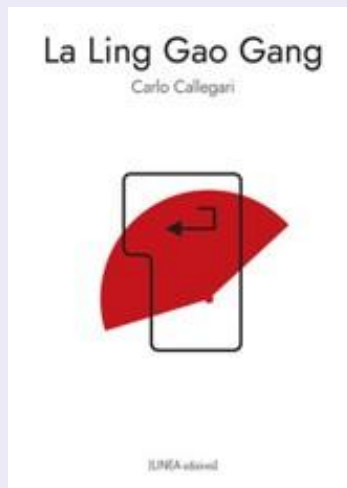
THE LING GAO GANG

224 pp. | 2020 | Crime / Action Comedy | Italy (Linea Edizioni)

- A €100-million digital heist turns into a pan-European treasure hunt
- Cybercrime meets road movie, action comedy and friendship
- Four unconventional antiheroes trying to turn one last illegal opportunity into a fresh start

More than one hundred million dollars have vanished from one of the world's biggest e-commerce platforms. The victim responds by placing an equally enormous bounty on the thieves, creating an irresistible opportunity for web-security agencies—and for Carlo, Lars, Poppe and Ling Gao, four friends accustomed to making a living through jobs that are not always entirely legal.

What begins behind computer screens soon turns into a journey across Europe, as the digital hunt moves onto the road. Mixing cybercrime, comedy and action, the novel follows four friends forced to confront their fears, test their loyalty and race toward a finale none of them could have predicted.





ALL THAT'S LEFT OF MY HEART

Rosario Palazzolo

204 pp. | 2021 | Literary Fiction | Italy (Arkadia)

- Nominated for the 2022 Premio Strega
- A dark and fiercely original monologue about family, religion, violence and the impossibility of truth
- Palazzolo is an award-winning playwright, director and actor and winner of the National Theatre Critics Prize

In Palermo, a young boy has been locked in a dark room, where two women have boarded up the door and left him to die of starvation. What we read is his letter to “jesus”—deliberately written in lowercase—in which he gradually reveals the story of a silent father, a grim mother, a devious priest and a secret that has shaped his life.

Written with dark humour and relentless energy, *All That's Left of My Heart* is a novel about truth, concealment and the violence hidden behind social and religious conventions. A cruel, funny and unsettling monologue in which language becomes the means through which a boy tries to make sense of a world that has failed him.

A SONG FROM THE ABYSS

Ariase Barretta

120 pp. | 2021 | Literary Fiction | Italy (Arkadia)

- More than 2,000 copies sold in the first two weeks
- Winner of the Premio Dei 2022
- Family violence, gender identity and self-acceptance in a compact and intense coming-of-age novel

Davide is thirteen and loves his father Osvaldo without boundaries. But this intense attachment becomes the starting point of a painful journey through family relationships, memory and violence. Moving between past and present, the novel follows Davide as he gradually learns to understand himself and the forces that have shaped his life.

What begins as the story of a troubled father-son relationship becomes a powerful journey toward clarity and self-acceptance, culminating in Davide's decision to transition and finally claim an identity of his own.





NOT IN MAY
Luigi Romolo Carrino

256 pp. | 2021 | Literary / Magical Realist Fiction | Italy (Arkadia)

- Nominated for the 2021 Premio Strega; Carrino is a three-time Strega nominee
- Procida, witchcraft, supernatural powers and ancient traditions, with echoes of Elsa Morante
- Author previously published by Mondadori, Laterza and e/o; one of his novels has been translated into German

Born on the island of Procida, Salvo grows up without the love of his mother but with extraordinary powers: telekinesis, telepathy and the ability to shape time and space. These gifts soon attract Rosina, a *janara*, a witch determined to defend the old ways against the advance of modernity.

Salvo believes he is meant to teach humanity a new language of love, but his path takes an unexpected direction when he meets Nuccio, an autistic boy who introduces him to a different form of communication. Blending magic, folklore and emotional realism, the novel explores loneliness, desire and the search for connection against the haunting landscape of Procida.

THE COLLAGIST
Francesca Mazzucato

120 pp. | 2020 | Literary / Psychological Fiction | Italy (Arkadia)

- Mazzucato's books have already been published in France, Spain, Germany and Greece by major international publishers
- Paris, art, memory and identity in a compact psychological mystery
- The protagonist's hidden past gradually emerges through the collages she creates

A nameless woman lives alone in Paris, working as a collagist and hiding from a past she refuses to reclaim. Moving through hotel rooms, cafés and encounters with strangers, she remains haunted by the feeling that something from her former life is pursuing her.

Her only refuge is her art. As she cuts and rearranges images on paper and canvas, fragments of her past begin to surface and the mystery of her identity slowly comes into focus. An intimate and unsettling novel about memory, reinvention and the stories we create in order to survive.





LETTERS FROM THE EDGE OF THE WORLD

Barbara Garlaschelli

120 pp. | 2021 | Literary / Epistolary Fiction | Italy (Arkadia)

- The author's previous books have been sold in seven territories, including France, Spain, the Netherlands and Mexico
- Winner of the Scerbanenco Award and previously shortlisted for the Premio Strega
- A high-concept epistolary mystery about love, distance and survival

A woman and a man exchange letters from unknown places, each seemingly standing at the edge of the world. Their love stretches across time and distance, yet neither can be certain that the other will ever receive what has been written.

As the correspondence unfolds, a mystery emerges: why must they remain apart, and why does distance seem to be the only way for them to survive? What begins as a love story gradually becomes an investigation into absence, dependency and the fragile ways in which two people may keep one another alive.

NON FICTION



SEX, DRUGS AND KICKS IN THE TEETH. Stories from the Dark Side of Rock'n'Roll
Renzo Stefanel

192 pp. | 2016 | Music / Rock History | Italy (Giunti)

- 7,000 copies sold
- 38 true stories from the darkest side of rock, separating documented fact from urban legend
- Keith Moon, Iggy Pop, Sid Vicious, Syd Barrett, Led Zeppelin, Bob Dylan, Charles Manson and many more

Over more than sixty years, rock inherited from the blues its reputation as the “Devil’s music”, building a mythology of excess, violence, self-destruction and madness. Drawing on documented episodes rather than urban legends, Renzo Stefanel reconstructs some of the most disturbing and outrageous stories in rock history.

From Keith Moon and Iggy Pop’s excesses to the tragic deaths of Hank Williams and Sid Vicious, from the mental breakdowns of Syd Barrett, Peter Green and Brian Wilson to Led Zeppelin’s infamous exploits, the book reveals the darker lives behind rock mythology. Music history, cultural journalism and black humour combine in a portrait of rock at its most reckless and extreme.



MORE SEX, DRUGS AND KICKS IN THE TEETH. More Stories from the Dark Side of Rock'n'Roll
Renzo Stefanel

208 pp. | 2017 | Music / Rock History | Italy (Giunti)

- The follow-up to *Sex, Drugs and Kicks in the Teeth*, with 30 new documented stories of rock excess and transgression
- Based on extensive research across hundreds of books and articles: no urban legends
- Elvis, Iggy Pop, Oasis, Ozzy Osbourne, The Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan, Lou Reed, Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin and Jim Morrison

Rock has always cultivated a mythology of excess, scandal and self-destruction. In this second volume, Renzo Stefanel returns to its darker side with thirty new stories based on extensive research rather than urban legend, combining music journalism, cultural history and black humour.

From Elvis and Iggy Pop to Oasis, Ozzy Osbourne, The Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan and Lou Reed, the book revisits episodes of violence, sex, drugs, obsession and madness without romanticising them. Behind the mythology emerge fragile egos, reckless behaviour and larger-than-life personalities—including the notorious encounter between Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin and Jim Morrison.

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