

RIGHTS LIST

(FRONTLIST SPRING 2025 & EXTRACT BACKLIST)

Frontlist

page

FICTION / NARRATIVE NON FICTION (ITALIAN LANGUAGE)

Mark T. James: Ridere con le lacrime agli occhi (Laughing with Tears in the Eyes) 1

The story of Mark and his labrador Black continues. The sequel of La gioia di correre in salita is just as big a bestseller as Mark T. James' previous novel.

TOP 10 BESTSELLER

Fabrizio Virtuani: Il moto segreto delle stelle (The Secret Movement of the Stars) 2

First novel of a series (currently six novels) of art crime novels with art expert Alessandro Greco and his assistant Michele Greco, set in the most fascinating places in Italy and around the world.

TV OPTION SOLD

Pino Aprile: La brigante bambina (The Girl Brigand) 3

A novel of love and freedom: The exciting story of a 16 year old girl taking part as a brigand - even as a leader of a brigand gang - in the struggle against the occupation of Southern Italy

Luca Crippa & Maurizio Onnis: I bambini del treno (The Children from the Train) 4

The salvation of two Dutch Jewish children, together with other children interned in Bergen-Belsen, thanks to the courage of a Polish nurse.

BY THE AUTHORS OF THE WORLDWIDE BESTSELLER *THE AUSCHWITZ PHOTOGRAPHER*, PUBLISHED IN MORE THAN 17 LANGUAGES AND SOLD IN MORE THAN 30 COUNTRIES

Eva Polanski: La ragazza che cercava un principe e il gatto che la innamorò (The Girl Who Looked for Prince Charming and the Cat That Made Her Fall in Love) 5

A young woman looking for Mr. Right risks a big disappointment, because she clings to fairy tale illusions, but her cat manages to bring her on the right track

BY ITALY'S BEST SOLD AUTHOR OF THE GENRE

Monika Diana Sears: La bambina sotto il tavolo (The Girl Below the Table) 6

A group of women stick together to hide a Polish Jewish girl saving her from being deported.

Siba Shakib: La bambina che non c'era (The Girl Who Didn't Exist) 7

A child in an Afghan village who was born a girl but should be male: disguised as a boy she lives freedom, but falling in love she has to decide if living her love is worth scarifying her freedom.

BY THE AUTHOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLERS - TRANSLATED INTO 27 LANGUAGES - *AFGHANISTAN, WHERE GOD COMES ONLY TO WEEP, ESKANDAR* ETC.

NON FICTION (ITALIAN LANGUAGE)

Pope Francis (interviewed by G.M. Chiocci) : Non temere la morte (Do Not Fear Death) 8

A long interview in which Pope Francis explains his points of view about the wars in the world, the future Church, the plea for climate and Pelé's greatness - published Apr. 2025

- Pope Francis: Sei unica. Inno al genio femminile** (You are unique. Ode to Feminine Genius) **9**
A praise of women, of all their characteristics in which Pope Francis underlines that women are more courageous, creative and authoritative than men, and that they are indispensable for making the world better
[TOP 20 BESTSELLER](#)
- Pope Francis: Ti voglio bene** (I Love You) - published Nov. 2023 **10**
The Pontiff's manifesto about love as the only means that brings us together, makes us alike, creates equality, breaks down walls and distances.
[MORE THAN 30,000 COPIES SOLD IN THE FIRST 3 MONTHS](#)
- Stefano Mastro Simone : SeGreta Garbo. La prima diva queer** (Greta Garbo. The First Queer Diva) **11**
A thoroughly researched biography - probably THE biography - about Greta Garbo, who from working class Origins made her way to Hollywood - and to a lifestyle that ignored gender boundaries!
[BASED ON RESEARCH SUPPORTED BY THE SVENSKA FILMINSTITUTET](#)

Backlist (Extract)

FICTION AND NARRATIVE NON FICTION (ITALIAN LANGUAGE)

- Rosanna Catalano: Cuori di Sicilia** (Hearts of Sicily) **12**
To escape poverty in Sicily of the beginning 20th century, a young couple emigrates to America where they make their fortune with the husband's hobby - music - and get in conflict with the "Black Hand" New York's mafia.
- Luca Crippa & Maurizio Onnis: La bambina nel vento** (The Girl in the Wind) **13**
The true story of Hedy Epstein who as a child was sent away from Nazi Germany by her parents, to England and then America, from where she returned after the war in a US army uniform. She contributed to to collect material for the prosecution of criminal concentration camp doctors.
[BY THE AUTHORS OF THE WORLDWIDE BESTSELLER THE AUSCHWITZ PHOTOGRAPHER, PUBLISHED IN MORE THAN 17 LANGUAGES AND SOLD IN MORE THAN 30 COUNTRIES](#)
- Luca Crippa & Maurizio Onnis: La bambina di Kiev** (The Girl from Kyiv) **14**
The moving story of a Kyiv family which is torn apart by the Russian attacks, a dramatic escape full of tragic events and experiences, told from the perspective of ten-year-old Alisa
- Mark T. James: La gioia di correre in salita** (The Joy of Running Uphill) **15**
A young Labrador dog gives new joy of life to a burnt-out manager and ignites in him the passion for trailrunning - a lovely, heartwarming story set in the picturesque landscape of the Piedmont Langhe, appreciated by tourists from all over the world.
[SPANISH RIGHTS SOLD TO DUOMO - MOVIE RIGHTS OPTIONED BY PROPAGANDA PRODUCTIONS](#)
- Palma Pellegrini Torre: Paradiso Siciliano** (Sicilian Paradise) **16**
A commercial upmarket women's novel that is both a piece of cinema history (including gossip at its best!) and a post-war female empowerment story, as Ada realises her talent and ambition becoming a successful photographer.
- Alessandro Schwed: Lo zio coso** (Uncle Thingamabob) **17**
During the train travel to his uncle in Hungaria, Melik, a young Italian Jew, knows the stubborn holocaust revisionist Doktor Oskar who tries to convince him with the most absurd argumentation that even World War II was a staging of the allies. After having received as goodbye a blow on his head, Melik wakes up in confusion and no longer masters language, and is unable to find the right words to express himself.

Siba Shakib: Mille volte gioia (A Thousand Times of Joy) 18
The life of Afghan girl Shadi, thirty years of dramatic events, of encouraging resilience and feminine solidarity

FICTION (GERMAN LANGUAGE)

Robert Hültner: The "Inspektor Kajetan" series 19-20

Set in Munich of post WW I, this multiple awarded literary crime fiction series, shows the atmosphere that allowed the fascist party to come to power, with the help of ultra-conservative, nationalist and anti-Semitic circles of aristocrats, industrialists and military officers. Kajetan an apolitical but righteous policeman with humane attitude, refuses to adapt to the prevailing spirit of this time - even if for his dissent he risks his career and often also his life.

SEVERAL VOLUMES AWARDED WITH GLAUSER AND DEUTSCHER KRIMIPREIS (BOTH MOST RENOWNED GERMAN LANGUAGE CRIME FICTION PRIZES) AND PREMIO ITAS FOR THE ITALIAN EDITION OF ONE VOLUME OF THE SERIES

NON FICTION

Davide Chinellato: King. La biografia di LeBron James 21

The life, message social commitment of currently the world's greatest basketball player who beat Abdel-Karim Jabbar's forty years lasting scorer record in 2023.

RIGHTS SOLD FOR SPANISH (ROCA) AND RUSSIAN (EKSMO)

Arrigo Cipriani: Elogio dell'accoglienza (Praise of Hospitality) 22

Cipriani, legendary host at "Harry's Bar" tells his 60 years of hospitality and explains his philosophy of gastronomy.

Fabio Fracas: Il mondo secondo la fisica quantistica (The World According to Quantum Physics) 23

Describing the development of concepts in physics that lead to the quantum theories and giving an outlook on current and future applications of quantum physics in various fields.

With contributions by world famous scientists, among them - like the author - researchers in the Geneva CERN..

BESTSELLER AND LONGSELLER WITH 17 REPRINTS

Valerio Massimo Manfredi & Fabio Manfredi: Come Roma insegna (As Rome teaches) 24

Rome, contrary to other conquering empires, left behind not only impressive buildings and infrastructure, but above all important knowledge and principles. This book shows how we today can learn from how Rome handled immigration, technology, culture and how it coped with threats as pandemics.

SPANISH RIGHTS SOLD TO EDHASA

Valerio Massimo Manfredi: Sei lezioni di storia (Six lessons in history) 24

Six mythological and legendary real persons from antique history and the values they represent still today, values and gestures that make them everlasting heroes.

SPANISH RIGHTS SOLD TO EDHASA

Valerio Massimo Manfredi: La vita e la storia (Life and history) 25

Half memoir, half historical overview with insights on what history can tell us about everlasting facts and truths of life.

SPANISH RIGHTS SOLD TO EDHASA

Franco Nero: Django e gli altri (Django and the Others) 26

World famous actor Franco Nero (whose cult role was Django in the 1960s) tells his life, highlights, anecdotes and the love story with his wife Vanessa Redgrave.

SPECIALS: CRIME & NOIR - HISTORICAL THRILLERS

Crime & Noir

Rosa Cerrato:

The series with policewoman Nelly Rosso in Genoa

Riccardo Landini:

The noir series with restorer Astore Rossi, involuntary detective

The noir series with Brenno Sandrelli, insurance claims adjuster and part time private eye

Roberto Mistretta: The series with Sicilian carabinieri Maresciallo Bonanno

Historical Thrillers

Pierpaolo Brunoldi & Antonio Santoro:

- The Bonaventura da Iseo trilogy: a medieval Franciscan monk has to enquire
- Germanic soldier count Optari and young Roman senator Tiberius investigate in bloody murders in Benedict of Nursia's monastery in the Early Middle Ages Italy (6th century)

Pierpaolo Brunoldi: Ercole Visconti, a disgraced and exiled doctor, investigates on behalf of Carlo Borromeo in 16th century Milan

Patrizia Debicke:

- The Medici trilogy
- L'uomo dagli occhi glauchi: ..., young English nobleman comes to Northern Ital in diplomatic (and espionage) mission under the pretext to let himself portray by famous painter Titian
- Il segreto del calice fiammingo: Jan van Eyck gets involved in a political mystery
- Filgia di Re. Un matrimonio per l'Italia: a princess goes beyond marriage of political interest
- L'enigma del fante di cuori: intrigues and murders at the English court of King George

FRONTLIST FICTION / NARRATIVE NON FICTION

Mark T. James

RIDERE CON LE LACRIME AGLI OCCHI *(LAUGHING WITH TEARS IN THE EYES)*



How many times can a man lose himself and find himself again? Sitting in the cold on a bench in Washington Square, New York, Mark can't think of anything else. He thought he had said goodbye to that life forever: no more unnecessarily frenzied rhythms, no more fierce competition, no more fake relationships. In the Langhe, on the hills where he had moved from London after a terrible crisis of meaning, he was reborn. Thanks to nature, to a new love, and above all thanks to a wonderful young Labrador, Black, who taught him everything he didn't know: to be happy, first of all.

But now, here he is, a stone's throw from Wall Street, far from what he truly loves, and re-immersed in a job that was about to devour his soul. He's doing it for his best friend, Nic, who desperately needs his help. But the price to pay is very high: Mark risks losing himself.

In the city of the world's most famous marathon, where everyone seems to be in continuous training, Mark isn't even able to run anymore. He only runs for fun, in nature, with Black, because there's nothing more contagious than the joy of a dog running free.

But, once again, life proves to be more surprising than expected.

Maybe he just has to embrace this new situation to find a new path and rediscover, even an ocean away, the magic? What if the solution was simply to look at the world with the ever-new gaze of a dog?

This story is a hymn to friendship, a friendship created between human and animal, the kind of friendship without half-measures, without personal gain, pure and sincere.

MARK T. JAMES WAS BORN IN CHELSEA, LONDON, IN 1981. HE LEFT HIS JOB IN THE CITY AND NOW SHARES HIS LIFE WITH BLACK BETWEEN THE HILLS OF THE LANGHE/PIEDMONT AND THE UK.

HIS PREVIOUS BOOK, LA GIOIA DI CORRERE IN SALITA / THE JOY OF RUNNING UPHILL, IS AN EXTRAORDINARY BESTSELLER THAT HAS TOPPED THE ITALIAN BESTSELLER LISTS, WINNING OVER TENS OF THOUSANDS OF READERS.

➤ **TOP 10 BESTSELLER**

➤ **THE PREVIOUS NOVEL LA GIOIA DI CORRERE IN SALITA HAS BY NOW MORE THAN 30,000 COPIES SOLD / MOVIE OPTION SOLD / SPANISH TRANSLATION PUBLISHED BY DUOMO**

PUBLISHER Libreria Pienogiorno, Milan

PUBLISHING DATE January 9, 2025 - 320 pages

FABRIZIO VIRTUANI

Il moto segreto delle stelle (The Secret Motion of the Stars)

Film/TV rights optioned before the book publication by an important Italian producer!

The investigations of Alessandro Greco and Michele Leonardi.

Six Italian art crime novels set in Italy, among its most wonderful places: landscape, artistic and architectural spots.



*The series, set in the present day, features private investigator **Alessandro Greco**, who is specialised in art crimes and in advising major auction houses and international companies in the search for ancient treasures, and his assistant **Michele Leonardi**, a biochemist and expert art restorer.*

The work base of the two detectives is a charming villa in Taormina, near the Greek Theatre and with a wonderful view over the bay of Giardini-Naxos and Mount Etna.

From there they set off for their investigations.

The two detectives are moving in a fascinating backdrop of splendid landscapes, locations, and atmospheres and are surrounded by a bunch of lively and remarkable characters: their cook and domestic helper Sarina, who speaks strictly in Sicilian dialect and dispenses sayings of ancient wisdom; her husband Alfio, butler, gardener and trusted secretary; the beautiful and sensual pharmacist Elena, who has been in love with Alessandro since school time, and with whom he has an intense secret love affair; the likeable and eccentric Scottish neighbour, Sir William Edward Thomas MacEliott, Greco's Cambridge classmate and distant relative of Florence Trevelyan, a noblewoman who moved to Taormina in the nineteenth century; the elderly antiquarian Mario Giordano, Alessandro's mentor and his first employer; Lieutenant Colonel Francesco Arena, commander of the Carabinieri's Operative Department for the Protection of Cultural Heritage, who asks for the

investigator's collaboration in the most intricate cases.

Il moto segreto delle stelle (The Secret Motion of the Stars)

Taormina, June 2019: an archaeological exhibition opens, displaying important treasures found in the Mediterranean, including artifacts from the famous Antikythera ship in Greece. The quiet town is shaken by a series of crimes: an attempted heist at the vernissage, an actual robbery at the exhibition in the following days, and the heinous murders of two women: Grazia Pennisi, cashier at the Eremitani Museum, and Carmela Rizzo, maid on the floors of the San Benedetto Palace Hotel. Greco and Leonardi become involved as collaborators in the robbery investigation, and enquire together with the Carabinieri for the Protection of Cultural Heritage.

The investigation, full of twists and turns, will lead the two investigators among the murky secrets of hotel guests and Taormina residents, until the lastminute discovery of the real motive for the murders and the robbery: obtaining the pieces of the Antikythera Machine, the oldest known mechanical planetarium, which the chief research and development engineer of one of Geneva's leading maison horlogère wished to examine at all costs in order to copy its sophisticated and precise mechanism and incorporate it into a limited edition grand complication watch, for a niche but high-value market, which would give him eternal fame and great wealth.

PUBLISHER COMPAGNIA EDITORIALE ALIBERTI

PUBLISHING DATE October 30, 2024 - 292 pages

PINO APRILE

LA BRIGANTE BAMBINA (*The Girl Brigand*)

A historical novel about love and freedom



Luisa is sixteen years old, a lively, passionate young woman, and has a great knowledge of the powers of herbs, and an atavistic aversion against encroachment. Thick, shoulder-length hair, large eyes in the color of wet earth deep as two wells, and a cherry-red mouth that from the cradle has given her the nickname Cerasella.

When as a young girl she is about to blossom into a woman, the invasion of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies by the Savoy army to unify Italy doesn't let her any choice but to become a brigandess: the events force her to take up arms and seek her way into the woods, along with her brother and a gentle teacher, Antonio.

It will be their small group that conceives the plan to unite, under one command and one strategy, all the formations that have arisen to oppose the military occupation.

And it will be Luisa, the smallest of them all, the Brigante Bambina, who reveals great gifts of wisdom and courage and leads the group's wanderings through a land

devastated by an invading army and opposing gangs.

Which is not unusual, as it turns out: the war will become a time of emancipation for many women. In their odyssey among formations of resistance, Luisa and her group will meet, at the head of fearsome gangs, Michelina Di Cesare, the terrible Ciccilla and other formidable female fighters whose passion for their men and for freedom led them to join the struggle.

With unforgettable protagonists, a mix of love, adventure, female determination, magnificent landscapes and battle for freedom, Pino Aprile brings to life a dramatic, enthralling and emotional novel.

ON NETFLIX THE SERIES BRIGANDS, WITH A SIMILAR SETTING AS APRILE'S NOVEL IN SOUTHERN ITALY, BRINGS THE CONCEPT AND FACTS ABOUT THE SOUTHERN ITALIAN BRIGAND MOVEMENT CLOSER TO THE AUDIENCE, PRESENTING BRIGANTISM NOT ONLY AS A CRIMINAL PHENOMENON BUT AS THE PATRIOTIC AND SOCIAL MOVEMENT, FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM

PUBLISHER LIBRERIA PIENOGIORNO, MILAN

PUBLISHING DATE SEPT. 27TH, 2023 – 182 PP.

LUCA CRIPPA & MAURIZIO ONNIS

authors of the international bestseller **THE AUSCHWITZ PHOTOGRAPHER**, translated in more than 17 languages and published in more than 30 countries:

I BAMBINI DEL TRENO (*The Children from the Train*)



One of the most iconic photo documents of the Second World War drama: two very young children peer bewilderedly out of a train window at the unknown future that awaits them. They are on their way to the Bergen Belsen camp.

For over seventy years their identity and their destiny was unknown, lost in the winds of history.

Now we know that they are two siblings, Marc and Stella Degen, who are leaving Amsterdam for the infamous Stalag 311.

Dozens of children like them, babies, children, teenagers, will find a new mother in a courageous woman, Luba Trzyszynska, who already had survived Auschwitz.

This is the extraordinary story of the children from the Bergen-Belsen train.

By telling the true story of some, we will remember them all.

***With a train of darkness they came,
with a train of light they will flee:
this is the extraordinary story
of the 'children's barrack' at Bergen-Belsen.***

It is a fairy tale invented by Luba in order to give 'her' children a smile: the blue train game. One by one, before boarding that imaginary convoy, each of them says where he wants to go, and the locomotive takes the children to their destination. 'Home', almost everyone sighs. They know that from Bergen-Belsen no one can get out, but the blue train keeps their hope alive that one day the horror into which they have immersed, will vanish. A train of darkness has brought them there - from France, Holland, Hungary, Poland, wherever the Nazis extended their hook cross - a train of light will carry them away. Thousands of children of all ages have passed through the gates of Stalag 311, the concentration camp in Lower Saxony where Anne Frank was interned, too. Many of them soon found themselves alone, because their parents, first fathers then mothers, were sent to work as slave labourers to nearby war industry factories. Newborn babies and toddlers, children, adolescents left on their own, among adult prisoners, and all of them fighting for survival.

But in the middle of the darkest night, a Polish prisoner, a nurse named Luba Trzyszynska, a former Auschwitz survivor, managed to create a secret oasis for them inside the camp, hiding and protecting many of them. For them she worked, begged, bartered, stole food, clothes, medicine, everything to preserve them from hunger pangs and the fury of the guards, one day after another. These children were called Marc, Stella, Jacques, Liza, and a thousand other names.

This is their story: the extraordinary story of the 'children's barracks' in Bergen-Belsen.

PUBLISHER LIBRERIA PIENOGIORNO, MILAN **PUBLISHING** JAN. 10TH, 2024 - 256 PP. **1ST PRIN RUN** 12,000

LUCA CRIPPA'S AND MAURIZIO ONNIS' PREVIOUS NARRATIVE NON FICTION BOOKS WERE INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLERS: **THE AUSCHWITZ PHOTOGRAPHER** AND **THE ARCHIVIST**, AND LATELY **LA BAMBINA DI KIEV** (THE LITTLE GIRL FROM KYIV) FROM 2022 AND **LA BAMBINA NEL VENTO** (THE GIRL IN THE WIND) FROM 2023.

EVA POLANSKI

Italy's most successful author of the cat book genre

LA RAGAZZA CHE CERCAVA UN PRINCIPE E IL GATTO CHE LA INNAMORÒ

(The Girl Who Looked for Prince Charming And the Cat Who Made Her Fall in Love)



Once upon a time there was - and there still is - a smart girl, who works, goes out with friends, is able to deal with various problems she faces, and most of the time she knows that fairy tales do not exist.

When it comes to love, however, Elisa gets lost in fairy tales. She looks for the ideal man, like Prince Charming, sweet and determined, romantic and passionate. Always perfect.

She did not yet learn what the magnificent cat that crosses her path seems to have known all along: that perfection, apart from cats, does not exist.

And that being fixed on an ideal will only drive her away from what she really needs.

The cat saw lots of human beings toil, lose sleep, deceiving themselves by coating blatantly wrong relationships with their expectations, he saw them suffer and yet persevere in unbalanced relationships or with disappointing, sometimes overbearing men - and all this just because they are misled by their own expectations.

Women who may have the right man right before their eyes, but risk letting the opportunity slip through their fingers.

Luckily for Elisa, the cat decides to watch over her.

It will not be easy to dissuade her from her false beliefs, to prevent her from letting herself be belittled and to protect her when the supposed prince turns out to be much less charming than expected...

But it will take more than all this effort to make a wise and loving cat give up.

A romance that is at the same time a philosophical reflection about love, how it can be mistaken, and what love really should be.

PUBLISHER LIBRERIA PIENOGIORNO, MILAN

PUBLISHING DATE NOVEMBER 8, 2023 - 240 PP.

MONIKA DIANA SEARS

LA BAMBINA SOTTO IL TAVOLO. UNA MEMORIA DELL'OLOCAUSTO (*The Child Below the Table. A Memoir from the Holocaust*)

With a foreword by Amos Luzzatti



"I was secretly sent to Aunt Krysia's room. They explained me that there was a monster in the flat. A real German, devouring girls. Aunt Krysia covered the table with a cloth, and I stayed down there in total silence and did not move when she went to work."

Monika, a Polish Jewish girl, was a five-year-old girl at the time of World War II who survived the tragedy of the Holocaust. Who saved her from the horror of the Shoah and the horrible fate that threatened her, was a group of courageous women: mothers, aunts, daughters.

That table would become more than an improvised refuge for little Monika: it would be her nomad's tent, her princess's palace, even a metaphor - obviously unconscious, for her - for the condition of a people.

The deprivation of childhood, the need to grow up quickly and the constant call to silence is a devastating legacy of this experience, of which Monika decided to tell to the next generation, first handwritten in a school exercise book destined to her grandchildren.

Only years later will she be convinced to publish her memoir, for all, so that this testimony of a dark period will not be lost.

PUBLISHER COMPAGNIA EDITORIALE ALIBERTI

PUBLISHING DATE JAN. 24TH, 2024 – 112 PP.

SIBA SHAKIB

Author of international bestsellers, compared by "THE OBSERVER" to Khaled Hosseini

La bambina che non c'era (The Girl Who Didn't Exist)



If you have a secret, take it, take it to the Hindu Kush and hide it under a stone.

There is not a single day in those nine months of pregnancy and then in the long hours of labour that Daria did not pray for a boy to be born. She knows what the village can do if she gives birth to a girl. A female is worth less than a sheep, less than nothing. She might as well not even exist. There is not a day that she did not tremble at the consequences if she would not give birth to a male child.

Her husband, the young and valiant commander, could not bear the affront of a girl. He can pass on everything he learnt from his father and his ancestors only to the first-born male child. And only a first-born male can guarantee him the respect of his fighters and his tribe in the Afghan mountains of the Hindu Kush.

Thus Samira, who is born female despite all prayers, will not live as a girl.

After overcoming his first disappointment, the commander, to avoid losing face, secretly decides to raise her as a boy and calls his daughter Samir.

He decides that when the time comes, she will take his place.

Thanks to her father's lie Samir learns to hunt, ride horses, shoot and fight: she enjoys a freedom that is unknown to women. Many questions and anxieties stir in her, but she trains herself to stifle them. To everyone, "Samir" is a strong and wise boy and the soldiers have no doubts: if the commander ever dies in battle, Samir has to be the new leader.

When this happens and her father is shot by Taleban mercenaries, his daughter in male clothing, takes on the role of head of the tribe.

But as a young woman, Samira is finally forced to make a decision: she falls in love with her childhood friend Bashir and has to choose whether to reveal her secret and risk her previous free life. Love and her new life as a woman make her very happy at first. But soon she can no longer bear the existence under the thick veil and the restrictions. She decides in favour of a life of freedom and flees.

The story of a brave girl struggling to regain her life and her destiny.

A deeply touching story, sad but full of hope, terrible and funny, told in a wonderfully oriental, poetic way.

PUBLISHER LIBRERIA PIENOGIORNO, MILAN

PUBLISHING DATE MARCH 6, 2024 - 304 PP.

"If you loved The Kite Runner, you will be thrilled by this story" - Der Spiegel

"Besides Khaled Hosseini she is the most exciting voice of fiction" - The Observer

- **THE PREVIOUS GERMAN EDITION WAS IN THE TOP 20 "SPIEGEL" BESTSELLER LIST**
- **SIBA SHAKIB'S PREVIOUS BOOKS WERE INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLERS**
- **MORE THAN 30,000 COPIES SOLD**

NON FICTION

Pope Francis

dialogues with Gian Marco Chiocci

Non temete la morte

(Do not Fear Death)



**WARS IN THE WORLD, THE CHURCH OF THE FUTURE,
THE CLIMATE APPEAL AND THE GREATNESS OF PELÉ**

The late pontiff's dialogues with Gian Marco Chiocci (director of Italy's national television news broadcast TG 1).

In these pages, Pope Francis restores hope, alleviates collective fears, warms consciences, and points out alternative paths to those that lead straight to hatred, mourning, and inhumanity.

In Pope Francis' own words, the topics of the war in the Middle East, the conflict in Ukraine, with the appeal to lay down arms, the balance of the Synod, the role of the Church and women and the need for renewal.

Central in the interview with Pope Francis are also the issue of migratory flows, Europe's fundamental role in helping the countries of first arrival of migrants, the climate emergency with the Pontiff's appeal to stop climate change.

There is, however, also room in the interview for the Pope's private sphere: the most difficult moment of his pontificate, his state of health, life as a boy, his fiancée before taking his vows, his nostalgia for the sea and, finally, his favourite soccer players.

The book also contains an annotated biography of Pope Francis' pontificate.

In his pontificate, with profound spirituality and contagious sympathy, with the delicacy and lively candour of a "country priest" - who not only knows all his parishioners but also the names of their dogs -, he made us reflect and smile, he unsettled and reassured us.

And we can be sure that through this interview he will do so once more, even now that he has returned to the Father's House.

PUBLISHER COMPAGNIA EDITORIALE ALIBERTI

PUBLISHING DATE APRIL 30, 2025 – 128 PP.

POPE FRANCIS

Sei unica. Inno al genio femminile

(You Are Unique. Ode to feminine genius)



The first book that a Pontiff ***dedicates to women:***
MORE COURAGEOUS THAN MEN, MORE CREATIVE AND MORE AUTHORITATIVE

Sei unica is an exciting manifesto in which Pope Francis explores and celebrates the centrality and the invaluable role of the woman.

He underlines the importance of women not only in family, but also in church and society. He praises their strengths and states that their characteristics are necessary for improving the world and points out the women's fundamental contribution in building a world of prosperity, genuine progress and peace.

"The world awaits your light. You are called to shine, for you are unique."

With quotes by Pope Francis' most beloved female writers, poets and personalities as **Hannah Arendt, Jane Austen, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Agatha Christie, Emily Dickinson, Anne Frank, Frida Kahlo, Anna Magnani, Dacia Maraini, Rita Levi Montalcini, Maria Montessori, Ahrundati Roy, Sappho, Edith Stein, Mother Theresa of Calcutta, Virginia Woolf.**

PUBLISHER Libreria Pienogiorno, Milan

PUBLISHING DATE October 2, 2024 - 240 pages

FIRST PRIN RUN

30,000

PUBLISHED IN COLLABORATION WITH LIBRERIA EDITRICE VATICANA

POPE FRANCIS

Ti voglio bene. Per una gioia condivisa

(I Love You. For a Shared Joy)



Ti voglio bene is Pope Francis' manifesto on what is, in all its variations, the crucial theme of our existence and of his teaching: love.

In these pages his words - and also those from the books and films most appreciated by him - explore every aspect and show a path for our hearts, sowing endless and contagious seeds of self-realization, of justice, of happiness.

Ti voglio bene - I love you,

... you are important to me, I count on you: friendship, affection, appreciation, attention, care, are imperious desires that unite us and for which the heart has an innate thirst for.

We all need to love and to be loved.

In everyone's experience, sharing goodness halves sorrow and amplifies joy. The commandment of love that Jesus left us calls us to do just this: to love others, and authentically love ourselves - because it is the way to

make our lives full, rich, satisfying.

Love is the greatest gift we received, and the greatest gift we can make.

It brings us closer together, makes us alike, creates equality, breaks down walls and distances. It is not a sugary fantasy, nor a soap opera always with the background of violins, but an extremely concrete, sometimes risky experience. A demanding path, which nevertheless leads to a definite destination: that of a fulfilled life.

Love is the door to joy and the cure for the loneliness and anxieties that the every day experience can have in store.

"Ti voglio bene" - "I love you" is the most precious gift, a promise of happiness.

Everything begins with this.

- POPE FRANCIS -

With Pope Francis' favourite quotes from works by **García Márquez, Dante Alighieri, Dostoevsky, Ungaretti, Balzac, Tolkien, Merini, Romero, Pasternak, St. Francis, Manzoni, Kierkegaard, Novalis, Borges and many others.**

A book that complements and completes Pope Francis' ***Ti voglio felice.***

PUBLISHER Libreria Pienogiorno, Milan

PUBLISHING DATE November 22, 2023 - 288 pages

PUBLISHED IN COLLABORATION WITH LIBRERIA EDITRICE VATICANA

- **FIRST PRINT RUN 31,000 COPIES SOLD OUT AFTER JUST 2 MONTHS**
- **TRANSLATION RIGHTS SOLD FOR PORTUGUESE (PORTO EDITORA), SPANISH (PRH SPAIN), CROATIAN (VERBUM)**

STEFANIO MASTROSIMONE

SeGreta Garbo. La prima diva queer

(Secret Greta Garbo. The First Queer Diva)



One hundred years ago, in March 1924, the film *Gösta Berling*, directed by Mauritz Stiller, was released in cinemas in Sweden. The female protagonist is Greta Lovisa Gustafsson, from then on officially for everyone **Greta Garbo**.

It is the start of the extraordinary career of who is universally considered the greatest diva of world cinema. ***The Divine Garbo***.

This is the complete and somewhat definitive biography of the incredible rise (and later, the very long retirement from the stage) of the girl born on 18 September 1905 in a working-class suburb of Stockholm to a family of humble origins, who thanks to her determination and talent became not only a world-famous actress, but an icon of elegance and modernity.

Garbo is all the more relevant today, in having anticipated the times and brought to the forefront - in the second half of the 1920s! - the question of gender, speaking of herself in the masculine and in fact becoming the first 'gender fluid diva' in film history.

Garbo smoked, drove a car and off the set, except for a few official occasions, wore trousers, flat shoes, ties, men's shirts and jackets, and for the night comfortable striped men's pyjamas.

This is an unpretentious portrait - based on documents of the Swedish archives - of a diva who tenaciously wanted to be herself, independent and non-conformist: who managed to assert herself

In a world totally run and dominated by male power, Greta Garbo's life is a story of deliverance, in which many, today perhaps more than in the days of the diva, are able to mirror themselves

BASED ON DETAILED AND PROFOUND RESEARCH SUPPORTED BY THE SVENSKA FILMINSTITUTET

Stefano Mastrosimone is an author/creator of television programmes. He invented and wrote some of the most famous tv shows in Italy and worked with some of the best-loved faces on Italian television as Fabrizio Frizzi, Lorella Cuccarini, Amadeus, Antonella Clerici, Gerry Scotti, Enrica Bonaccorti, Alberto Castagna and Al Bano.

Besides the publication of two books - *Una specie di follia/A Kind of Crazyness* (Aliberti editore, 2010, about poet Alda Merini) and *Donne dell'altro mondo/Women from the Other World* - Mastrosimone was the originator and scriptwriter of two documentary films, *Conversations with Alda Merini* and *Valentina Cortese*.

PUBLISHER COMPAGNIA EDITORIALE ALIBERTI

PUBLISHING DATE November 6th, 2024 - 432 pages with photos

BACKLIST FICTION AND NARRATIVE NON FICTION

ROSANNA CATALANO

HEARTS OF SICILY (*Hearts of Sicily*)



Hearts of Sicily tells the extraordinary story of Rosario Catalano in 1920s America, of his family and of his quartet, which inspired North American dance music.

From Sicily to New York and back - a story of love, ambition, wealth, jealousy and music: a story of stormy hearts.

Sicily in the early 1900s gives nothing to those who don't possess anything, and Rosario knows well that guys like him have to work hard to earn their place in the world. He can't even afford love, because the girl he loves, Rosa, is destined for a good match, not for him. But Rosario is ambitious, and thirsty for redemption. On his side he has hunger, youth, and an unshakable confidence in himself - and the certainty that America is there to be conquered by him. And so it happens. New York is not paved with gold as the agents of the shipping companies made him believe, and for Americans, Italians are "third-class slime", but from the moment he sets foot on

Ellis Island in 1908, Rosario doesn't waste time. Soon, with Rosa at his side, and the children brought to them by their passion, his dream will have no limits. He turns his hobby, music, into a business. His quartet, *I Quattro Siciliani*, makes its breakthrough first in Brooklyn, then throughout America. Contracts with the record companies start coming in, and a time of recording discs begins for Rosario, a time of evening performances, of the beautiful house, of fame, of wealth. The Catalano family conquers the position it deserves. Rosario is a skilled entrepreneur, buying without scruple score sheets for a few dollars and earning thousands from them, and withstanding fearless the Black Hand, the Italian-American mafia which claims protection money from businessmen. But in the end he is not able to erase Sicily from his heart. Finally Rosario and Rosa make their return to Marsala when, surrounded by threats and by treacherous friends, they need to go back to their roots. And it is from then on that Rosa, courageous and proud as Sicilian women are, will take over the reins of the Catalano family.

PUBLISHER LIBRERIA PIENOGIORNO, MILAN

PUBLISHING DATE JULY 7TH, 2021 - 336 PP.

Rosanna Catalano was born and lives in Mazara del Vallo (Sicily). She works as a teacher for Italian and Latin language, and apart from this she is a writer and promoter of cultural activities. *Cuori di Sicilia* tells the story of her father's family.

- **FIRST PRINT RUN OF 7.000 COPIES SOLD OUT WITHIN THE FIRST MONTH**
- **BY NOW ABOUT 17,000 COPIES SOLD**

LUCA CRIPPA & MAURIZIO ONNIS,

authors of the international bestseller **THE AUSCHWITZ PHOTOGRAPHER:**

LA BAMBINA NEL VENTO (*The Girl in the Wind*)

From Kristallnacht to the Nuremberg trial of Nazi doctors, *The Girl in the Wind* tells the extraordinary story of Hedy Epstein, who contributed to the writing of the book.



A survivor of the Holocaust, rescued by her parents who managed to get her to flee to England, Hedy found herself at a very young age participating in the Nuremberg trials against Nazi doctors accused of inhuman experiments on concentration camp prisoners. She struggles to find out about her parents, whose traces were lost at the gates of Auschwitz. Later she became one of the world's most famous human rights activists.

An unforgettable book of great civic value.

Hedy is a young girl like many others. She has a quiet life in a small German village, a loving family. Then, one morning, a teacher puts a gun to her head in front of her classmates and orders her never to return to school. Hedy's fault is that she is Jewish.

It is 10 November 1938, the morning after 'Kristallnacht'. Her parents narrowly manage to arrange her escape to England, just before the catastrophe of the Second World War overwhelms them.

Eight years later, the trials against Nazi criminals opens in Germany. In those days a beautiful girl arrives in Berlin. Although she wears an American uniform, for her it is a coming back home. What brings her back is a precise mission: she will work at the Nuremberg trial against the doctors accused of conducting inhuman experiments on prisoners in the concentration camps. She will immerse herself in the horror of the camps, among the documents in which the Reich's lucid bureaucratic madness filed its crimes, to search for evidence of Nazi ferocity beyond the imperturbable faces of the twenty-three accused.

But besides her official assignment, Hedy Epstein has a personal, very difficult mission: to find out what happened to her parents, whose tracks are lost in front of the gates of Auschwitz. She soon realises that her task is even more arduous and painful than she could ever have imagined.

"Telling and remembering is the only way we can avoid making the same mistakes. Even today. Even in Italy. - I tell about the time when I was a 'little girl in the wind' so that no more children will feel guilty just because they exist". HEDY EPSTEIN

Luca Crippa and Maurizio Onnis are authors of the international bestsellers *The Auschwitz Photographer*, and *The Little Girl of Kiev*.

LA BAMBINA NEL VENTO is based on the testimony of the protagonist, Hedy Epstein, from her own voice.

PUBLISHER LIBRERIA PIENOGIORNO **PUBLISHING DATE** JANUARY 11TH, 2023 – 301 PP.

"Probably the world's most famous civil rights and peace activist".
NEWSWEEK about Hedy Epstein

- **6 WEEKS IN THE TOP 20 OF ITALIAN NON FICTION**
- **MORE THAN 40,000 COPIES SOLD**
- **PORTUGUESE RIGHTS SOLD TO GRUPO EDITORIAL PRESENÇA**

From reviews about their previous books

«An important book, because the world must know» Daily Express

«An extraordinary story, a compelling book» The Sidney Herald

«Readers will be enthralled by this story of survival and compassion» Publishers Weekly

LUCA CRIPPA & MAURIZIO ONNIS:

LA BAMBINA DI KIEV (*The Girl from Kyiv*)



"Mom, the teacher cried in class today!" Alisa is ten years old and she's in fifth grade. She lives with her father Semyon and mother Polina in social housing in a Kiev apartment building. The news on television is getting worse every day, but no one wants to believe that the Russians are really about to attack the capital. Nor does Olexandr, her grandfather. He is old enough to remember the stories the old people told about the Second World War and he cannot conceive just how that tragedy can repeat itself now, in the heart of Europe. All this is discussed on the evening of February 23, 2022, at Alisa's home.

Then, a huge roar breaks the night. Alisa wakes up suddenly, seized by a terror to which she cannot give a name, something she has never experienced, not even listening to the scariest fairy tales.

What's going on? Is this, she asks through tears, is this war, then? This is the beginning of Alisa's story, the narrative nonfiction of a

little girl in the nightmare of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict. The story of a family, and at the same time of thousands of families. A story about fear. About bombs. About escape. About violence suffered by many people. About horror that spares no one and nothing, not even the hospitals, not even the refugees who pass through humanitarian corridors, not even the animals in the zoo. A story about resilience, too, and about courage. About old people, about women, and about children traveling alone, for hundreds of kilometers, with a phone number written in their hand by their moms. Alisa's story shakes, indignates, moves, makes us understand, perhaps better than any other story, what a terrible crime war is, always has been. Finally, a story of hope that does not surrender to abuse, death, to the most ferocious violence. Because it wants to believe in mankind, once again, and in peace.

Press voices about the authors' previous books:

«An important book, because the world must know». - *Daily Express*

«An extraordinary story, a compelling book». - *The Sidney Herald*

«Readers will be enthralled by this story of survival and compassion». - *Publishers Weekly*

Luca Crippa's and Maurizio Onnis' previous narrative non fiction books were **international bestsellers**, above all **THE AUSCHWITZ PHOTOGRAPHER**, translated into 17 languages and published in more than 30 countries.

PUBLISHER LIBRERIA PIENOGIORNO, MILAN

PUBLISHING DATE MAY, 18TH, 2022 - 286 PP.

➤ **TRANSLATION RIGHTS SOLD:**

FINLAND (LIKE/OTAVA GROUP) - FRANCE (LEDUC) - POLAND (HARDE) - PORTUGAL (PRESENÇA) - SLOVENIA (SALVE)

MARK T. JAMES

LA GIOIA DI CORRERE IN SALITA (*The Joy of Running Uphill*)



The secret of happiness? Having a dog, as many people can affirm. Or running - as many persons experience every time they go out jogging or running. Therefore having a dog to run with... well, that's just the best part of life. This is excellently narrated by Mark T. James in **The Joy of Running Uphill**.

Described by critics as '*a story of contagious happiness that testifies the redeeming power of dogs and running*', the book, which winds its way between London and Italy, tells the path of the rebirth of the author, whose life in crisis is overwhelmed by Black, a wonderful Labrador, the black dog that will illuminate everything.

A brilliant debut which is likely to become a classic of the genre!

Mark's life, if compared to a picture, is one big sunlit plain. A well-paid broker's job, a nice house in London, a long relationship with Susan and the prospect of a stellar career. A life planned in every moment, protected from the unexpected. Mark doesn't remember a step uphill, not even a walk. But one day a black veil unexpectedly envelops him and all his confidence shatters like glass. In the grip of a deep crisis, left even by Susan, who no longer understands him, Mark decides to take a break. Invited by his friend Nic, he moves to Italy, to the rural Langhe in Piedmont, where he rediscovers so many things that he did not remember any more: small villages, slow rhythms, good wine, a landscape that invites you to introspection. And the climbs - many slopes that literally take your breath away.

While Mark, ever more bewildered, desperately struggles to find himself again, a new cyclone hits his life: Black, a young black Labrador whom Nic entrusts to his care. Full of energy and a eagerness to explore, Black drags a reluctant Mark on rides through the vineyards and over hills to chase him. Little by little Mark regains his breath, meets new people, and begins to reconnect with his body and nature. To his surprise, he discovers that the fatigue of running uphill is matched by a progressive understanding about his true desires, and a joy he has never felt before. And he discovers that Black, from a necessary commitment, has become the light of his day.

So, one day, he decides to set off with the labrador on a new adventure...

"Black was running, and if he had thoughts they must be cheerful. Watching him, I got an overwhelming urge to run too: I wanted to feel at all costs that lightness which I saw in him."

PUBLISHER LIBRERIA PIENOGIORNO, MILAN

PUBLISHING DATE AUGUST 24TH, 2022 - 320 PP.

- **SET IN THE FAMOUS CHARMING LANDSCAPE OF PIEDMONT, SOUGHT-AFTER TOURIST DESTINATION AND HOME OF WORLD-RENOWNED WINES AS ASTI**
- **IMMEDIATELY AFTER PUBLICATION IN IT WAS IN THE TOP 10 BESTSELLERS**
- **FIRST REPRINT AFTER SIX WEEKS - BY NOW CA. 28,000 COPIES SOLD**
- **TRANSLATION RIGHTS FOR (WORLD) SPANISH SOLD TO DUOMO EDICIONES**
- **MOVIE OPTION SOLD TO PROPAGANDA FILM, ROME**

PALMA PELLEGRINI TORRE

PARADISO SICILIANO (*Sicilian Paradise*)



It is a rainy day in October 1948, when at the harbour of Stromboli a young woman in a much too large coat disembarks with a big suitcase from the postal ferry. Her name is Ada Vittoria Valeri, and she came from Milan to work as an elementary school teacher.

Back in Milan Ada had met an American GI with whom she fell in love. He saved her from a friendless home, but when Ada realises that she is pregnant, he is gone. To avoid being the victim of malicious comments, she applies for a job in Sicily and is sent to Stromboli, which in 1947 is an island still without the blessings of civilisation as electricity or running water.

Soon her pupils adore her, but the priest and the small village community eye the young and beautiful single woman suspiciously. She pretends to be a widow and a few months later gives birth to a girl, for whom she finds a wet nurse and continues to work as a teacher.

Everything changes when Stromboli becomes a film set. Until recently before Rossellini was involved with Anna Magnani, who was meant to play the lead role in his new film set on the island, but now he has fallen for Ingrid Bergmann, whom he lures there. The love between the Italian director and the Swedish actress arouses scandal everywhere, because both of them are still married and each of them has children with their partners.

The loss of her man and of the lead role is a double betrayal for the passionate Anna: she is heartbroken and offended in her pride. She does nothing to hide that she is seething with jealousy and rage. She meditates and prepares her bitter revenge.

In just a few weeks, in fact, on the nearby island of Vulcano, filming will begin on the eponymous film produced by Panaria, the new production company of the Sicilian prince Francesco Alliata di Villafranca. The prince, who with a specially created equipment was able to realise the first underwater filming ever worldwide, has entrusted his first feature film to the expert director William Dieterle: a movie that is meant to become a colossal with Magnani as protagonist. A movie that Anna herself wanted at all costs.

It will be "the war of the volcanoes", a race against time for two eagerly awaited films, and "the war of the divas". The paparazzi move en masse to the Aeolian Islands, bouncing from one island to another, from one set to another: in that torrid Sicilian summer of 1949 the situation on the islands is talking point in Europe and Overseas.

The two divas shoot their films on the neighbour volcano islands and wage their war for the man Roberto Rossellini. Soon Ada is going to be involved in this conflict: knowing some English thanks to her liaison with the GI, she is hired as an interpreter, and eventually, after becoming the personal assistant of Ingrid Bergmann, makes friends with the Swedish actress, visiting her often in her simple fisherman's house.

When some time later her love affair with Rossellini comes to an end, Bergmann writes once more a letter to Ada, who in the meantime has taken up with a photographer and moved back to the mainland, to Rome, where she became an acknowledged photographer herself.

But the allure of the island and its inhabitants and of the dramatic events during the filmings there will remain with her always.

This commercial upmarket women's novel is both a piece of film history (including gossip at its best!) and a post-war female empowerment saga, as Ada realises her talent and ambition becoming a successful photographer.

PUBLISHER LIBRERIA PIENOGIORNO, MILAN

PUBLISHING DATE SEPTEMBER 21ST, 2022 - 272 PP.

ALESSANDRO SCHWED

LO ZIO COSO (Uncle Thingamabob)



Melik, descendant of a family of Hungarian Jews of which only few members survived the Holocaust (precisely his father who after the war emigrated to Italy, and his uncle who remained in Hungary), is on his way to visit the uncle.

During his journey by train he gets to know an inveterate anti-Semite. This fellow-passenger, Doktor Oskar, tries to convince him, with most abstruse arguments and explanations, that the Holocaust - and even World War II - did never take place. He claims instead that it was only a cunning propaganda campaign, lavishly organized by the Allies who e.g. stage-managed the "alleged" London bombardments by engaging a huge number of actors and using lots of special effects.

After having received a blow with a stick as Dr. Oskar's goodbye, Melik collapses unconscious and when he awakes he notices that suddenly he now has serious problems to express himself: again and again he is unable to find the right words ...

A tragicomic, moving, grotesque and bitter Satirical novel with plenty of Jewish humour.

- **SCHWED'S WRITING HAS AFFINITIES TO THAT OF HOWARD JACOBSON.**
- **BY LITERARY CRITIC FRANCESCO CATALUCCIO THE AUTHOR WAS DEFINED, FOR HIS SENSE OF HUMOR AND THE SURREAL, "THE LAST YIDDISH WRITER IN ITALIAN LANGUAGE".**

FROM REVIEWS ABOUT *LO ZIO COSO*:

"I don't know how it is possible to write an extraordinary novel in which Collodi's *Pinocchio*, Voltaire's *Candide*, Swift's *How to Solve the Hunger Question in Ireland* and the stories of the Singer brothers coexist. Alessandro Schwed succeeded in his novel *Lo zio coso*."

Fabrizia Ramondino, writer and critic for *L'Espresso*

"An exhilarating, cutting and never-ending journey around the problem of identity."

Pier Mario Fasanotti, writer and critic for *Panorama*

"... a funny and at times poignant epic, full of irresistible pages and others that hurt even just to read them."

Elena Loewenthal, writer, translator and critic for *Tuttolibri*

"... a book that, miraculously, knows how to match the notes of extraordinary lightness to the darkest and most deaf music of the century that has just passed."

Massimo Onofri, writer and critic for *La Nuova Sardegna*

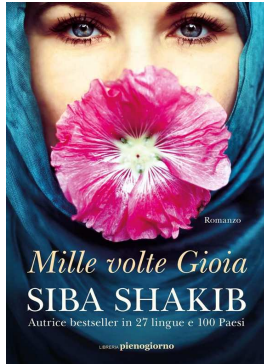
PUBLISHER PONTE ALLE GRAZIE (GRUPPO EDITORIALE MAURI SPAGNOL) - 268 PP.

SIBA SHAKIB,

author of the **international bestsellers AFGHANISTAN, WHERE GOD COMES ONLY TO WEEP, ESKANDAR and SAMIR AND SAMIRA:**

MILLE VOLTE GIOIA (A Thousand Times of Joy)

Siba Shakib's previous works received **several literary awards (as the PEN Prize for Afghanistan, Where God Comes Only to Weep)** and were **translated in 27 languages** and published in more than sixty countries.



Shadi knows many things, too many for a three-year-old girl. She knows that her hometown, Kabul, is now in the hands of cruel men called Taliban. She knows her father is in danger because he fought against them. She knows that for Afghan girls like her and for the women in the country "freedom is history", as her mother tells her on the day in 1996 when her sister Jahan is born. One year later, while hidden, she is a witness to the Taliban's raid in her home. After just a few moments, a casket and her beloved sister Jahan are the only things left to her, together with her mother's recommendation: "Promise me to keep always the joy in your heart." That is her name, Shadi: "joy" is the meaning of her name in the Dari language.

In the years to come she will do everything to fulfil that promise, despite the blows of fate, the cruelty of men in a country that seems to be afraid of women and does everything to cast a shadow on their light.

In a masterful narrative fresco, through three decades Shadi's life is interwoven with that of other women and the dramatic events of an Afghanistan that is eternally at war: the Taliban's darkness and fanaticism, the flashes of freedom in the Republican years, the tearing contradictions of Occident, and the return to power of the bearded men and their reign of terror. It is a powerful story about resilience, about struggle and fight, hope, about an insatiable hunger for freedom and justice. A story of one, two, thousands of Shadis who know how to create deep and unbreakable bonds of solidarity.

« We are all sisters: my epic novel about the women in Afghanistan »

Siba Shakib was born and raised in Tehran, Iran, and has lived in Afghanistan for a long time, as well as in Germany, Italy and New York. She is not only a writer, but also a filmmaker and activist, and knows the Afghan situation like few other, particularly the condition of women.

Through the (true) events of a little girl who becomes a young and then an adult woman, the novel narrates 30 years of Afghanistan's history, from the first Taliban government to today. An extraordinary, dramatic epic about the resilience of women.

PUBLISHER

LIBRERIA PIENOGIORNO. MILAN

PUBLISHING DATE

MAY 3RD, 2023 – 416 PP.

«Besides KHALED HOSSEINI, Siba Shakib is the most impressive novelist capable of telling the story of the world»

The Observer

- **RIGHT AFTER PUBLICATION IN TOP 20**
- **MORE THAN 20,000 COPIES SOLD IN THE FIRST 3 MONTHS; NEARLY 40,000 COPIES SOLD BY NOW**
- **SERBIAN RIGHTS SOLD TO LAGUNA**

FROM GERMAN LANGUAGE

ROBERT HÜLTNER - literary crime fiction

-BTB/RANDOMHOUSE GERMANY-

The Inspektor Kajetan series set in Munich of the early twenties

Bavaria in the early twenties: police inspector Paul Kajetan is a man without political interests, without career ambitions, he is a simple and straight person with a strong sense of justice who only wants to resolve his cases and fight against crime, the criminals and against injustice.

But this is not an easy job to do in these years of social and political disorders after World War I, when already certain interested groups favour nationalism and the political movement of a young Austrian demagogue...

And so, even though the murders that Kajetan has to investigate, at first glance seem to be ordinary crimes, in each of his cases Kajetan at the end finds himself involved with political intrigues, with cover-ups of plans for coup d'etat.

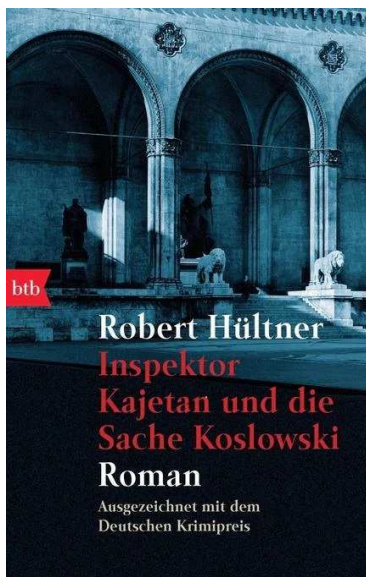
Not being able to leave aside his personal principles, Kajetan step by step is being punished for his righteousness: first he is being transferred into a provincial town for "disciplinary reasons", then demoted. Finally he is dismissed from police, where already his superiors are officials who support the growing fascist movement, and has to earn his living as a bodyguard and privat eye...

Atmospheric and authentic literary crime novels!

- **THE SERIES IS ONE OF BTB'S VERY FEW BEST- AND LONGSELLERS, KEPT IN THEIR CATALOGUE SINCE THE PUBLISHING OF THE FIRST NOVEL IN 1998**
- **ITALIAN EDITIONS PUBLISHED BY DEL VECCHIO EDITORE/ROME**

INSPEKTOR KAJETAN UND DIE SACHE KOSLOWSKI (Inspector Kajetan and the Koslowski Affair)

- pp.



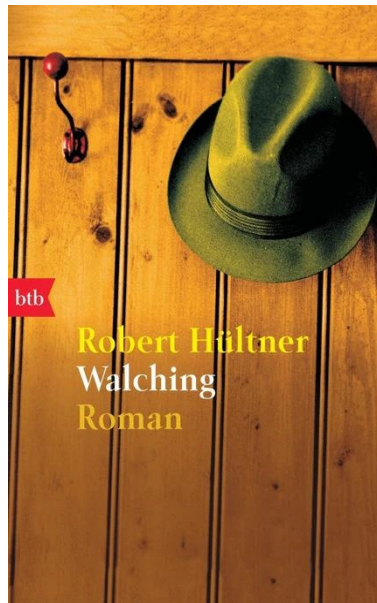
Munich in the days of the Räterepublik (republic governed by the workers' councils): inspector Kajetan investigates in a case of arson. The apartment of a journalist has been burned down, the journalist himself, Eugen Meininger, is missing. Soon afterwards, they find Meininger dead and Kajetan discovers that the reporter had enquired on the enemies of the president of the Bavarian council who had been shot shortly before. So he gets unintentionally in the way of counter-revolutionary circles that are composed of industrials, high-ranking soldiers and followers of the obscure Thule association. These persons are interested in putting an end to the socialist government with any means - and they are certainly not willing to let themselves stop by nosy journalists or dutiful policemen. And finally Kajetan not only reveals the persons behind Meininger's murder, but also has to save his own life, having been arrested and sentenced to death during the great confusion of the counter-revolutionary riots...

PUBLISHER BTB, PENGUINRANDOMHOUSE GERMANY - 216 PP.

- **AWARDED WITH THE DEUTSCHER KRIMIPREIS**

WALCHING

(Walching. A Crime without Significance)



Kajetan, transferred to a small province town near the Bavarian Alps, has to investigate in the mountain village Walching where an adolescent girl has been slain.

But the three vagabonds already arrested by the villagers do not seem to have anything to do with the murder.

Enquiring among the people from the village and its surroundings, Kajetan finds out that many of them have something to hide, but his superior in the town and some of Walching's dignitaries (the mayor, the retired military general) try to put an end to his investigation.

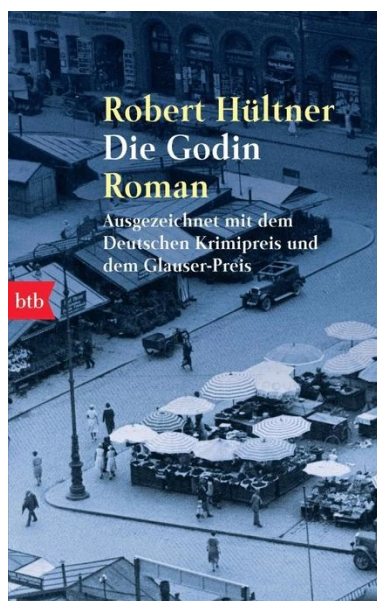
Kajetan, having come through several dangerous situations, however, continues until he finds out the complete background of the girl's death - and until he finds himself face to face with a mortal danger.

English translation available!

PUBLISHER BTB, PENGUINRANDOMHOUSE GERMANY - 192 PP.

DIE GODIN

(The Godmother)



Munich 1924: young prostitute Mia is found poisoned in her humble abode. Initially it seems like a suicide out of desperation. But Kajetan, who shortly before had known her, finds out that his girl-friend was murdered. He had begun to work as a private detective and security person since they had dismissed him from the police for insubordination. He wants to find out more about Mia's death and about her life. This research leads him to her home village and let him meet her godmother. Among the poor living conditions of the village he discovers a horrible family tragedy...

PUBLISHER BTB, PENGUINRANDOMHOUSE GERMANY - 288 PP.

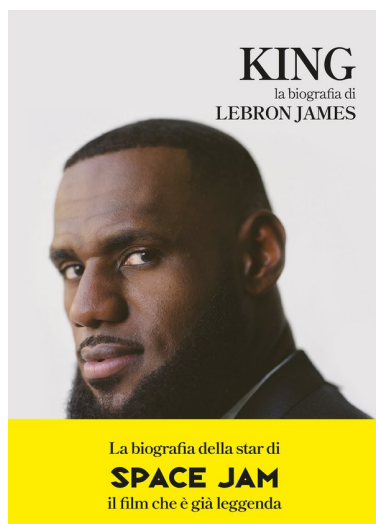
- **FIRST (AND FOR MANY YEARS ONLY) CRIME NOVEL TO WIN AT THE SAME TIME BOTH MOST RENOWNED AWARDS GLAUSER PREIS AND DEUTSCHER KRIMIPREIS**

BACKLIST NON FICTION

DAVIDE CHINELLATO

KING. LA BIOGRAFIA DI LEBRON JAMES

(King. The Biography of LeBron James)



Even though LeBron James would never say it about himself, former NBA star Isaiah Thomas has no doubts: "King" James is the GOAT, the greatest of all times.

"Because we've never had a player like LeBron who is able to combine dominance on the court with all the rest. For the sports aspect there are the statistics, and the numbers never lie: no one has had his performance and his consistency in each aspect of the game. And in the same way no one has done what he did for the communities in need."

For all these reasons LeBron James is unique.

As a child, abandoned by his father and raised by a teenage mother, he spent his difficult childhood ("I saw everything: drugs, murders; it was insane") living in poorest conditions, until the coach of the neighborhood football team took him into foster care.

This child did not only become the best in the world in his sport, basketball, an unrivalled player, the "Chosen One", but also a man who has committed his celebrity image to fight social injustice, giving these projects his face.

Chinellato, renowned expert for US basketball, tells in his biography about LeBron's life, his successes and his social and political commitment.

- **RIGHT FROM ITS PUBLICATION ON THE GFK SPORTS BESTSELLER LIST**
- **REVIEWS COMPARE IT TO MICHAEL JORDAN'S *AIR* AND KOBE BRYANT'S *THE MAMABA MENTALITY***
- **IN OCTOBER 2021 IT WAS CHOSEN BEST BIOGRAPHICAL BOOK - NOT ONLY IN SPORTS CATEGORY!**
- **MORE THAN 20,000 COPIES SOLD**
- **TRANSLATION RIGHTS SOLD: SPAIN (ROCA EDITORIAL) - RUSSIA (EKSMO)**
- **THE AUTHOR IS AVAILABLE FOR UPDATES ESPECIALLY FOR NEW TRANSLATED EDITIONS**

PUBLISHER LIBRERIA PIENOGIORNO, MILAN - 333 PP. WITH PHOTOS

ARRIGO CIPRIANI (founder and owner of "Harry's Bar")

ELOGIO DELL'ACCOGLIENZA (Praise of Hospitality)



Arrigo Cipriani, the legendary owner of "Harry's Bar", talks about his more than 60 years of experience as a top gastronome, as the owner of the restaurant that hosted the most famous personalities of the 20th century.

He explains the most important qualities that distinguish a good restaurant and the principles that make an excellent host.

In short, Arrigo Cipriani sums up his experience and philosophy of hospitality.

Of course in this narrations, episodes from his biography, from the history of "Harry's Bar", founded by his father, as well as interesting facts about Venice are interwoven.

PUBLISHER COMPAGNIA EDITORIALE ALIBERTI, REGGIO EMILIA (I) - 110 PP. WITH B/W PHOTOS

FABIO FRACAS

IL MONDO SECONDO LA FISICA QUANTISTICA. SEGRETI E MERAVIGLIE DELLA SCIENZA CHE STA CAMBIANDO LA NOSTRA VITA

(The world according to quantum physics.

Secrets and wonders of the science that is changing our lives)



What are the principles and laws of quantum physics? How do they apply to every-day life? How are they changing our vision of world? This accurately researched and riveting book answers questions and satisfy the reader's curiosity. It is an easy to read and truly illuminating reference text.

Quantum physics is so fascinating a topic that it has moved outside the boundaries of labs to engross not just professional scientists but the general public as well. But what exactly is quantum physics? What are its laws and how do they apply to every-day life? How is it changing our vision of the world and what is in store for our future? The author, who was **a scientist at the Geneva CERN**, physics professor at the Padova University and expert scientific writer, answers all these questions and many more in an accurately researched and highly readable book. Chock-full with information and discoveries, the first-ever book **in which world-class scientists and collaborators in Nobel price awarded research teams explain**

why quantum physics is radically changing the world.

- **WITH CHAPTERS CONTRIBUTED BY WORLD FAMOUS SCIENTISTS FEDERICO CARMINATI, GIORGIO COLANGELO, MARCO DRAGO, VITTORIO ELIA, ENRICO FACCO, GIULIANA GALLI CARMINATI, ROBERTO GERMANO, FABIO ROBERTO MARCHETTI, GIULIO PERUZZI, AUGUSTO SAGNOTTI, PIERGIORGIO SPAGGIARI, GIUSEPPE TORMEN, FOUR PRINT RUNS IN THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS, 17 TOTAL PRINT RUNS OF HARDCOVER AND TRADE PAPERBACK**
- **ABOUT 14, 000 COPIES ONLY OF THE HARDCOVER EDITION SOLD**
- **SHORTLISTED FOR THE *PREMIO NAZIONALE DI DIVULGAZIONE SCIENTIFICA*, THE MOST RENOWNED ITALIAN AWARD FOR POPULAR SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE**
- **IN AN ARTICLE ON LA LETTURA (LITERARY SECTION OF CORRIERE DELLA SERA) ABOUT THE RECENT NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSICS FOR QUANTUM PHYSICIST ZEILINGER, FRACAS' BOOK WAS NAMED AMONG FEW OTHERS AS RECOMMENDED LITERATURE ON QUANTUM PHYSICS**

PUBLISHER SPERLING & KUPFER, MILAN - 288 PP.

VALERIO MASSIMO MANFREDI & FABIO MANFREDI

COME ROMA INSEGNA *(As Rome Teaches)*



History is a complex motion that can give way to chaos. Yet the epic history of Rome is able to sum up in a magnificent way a constant in the behavior of the human species: the claim of a better world.

All empires were founded on blood. And all empires are doomed to fall. In these aspects Rome makes no difference. What makes the difference, however, is what remains. Many empires disappear having left behind extermination camps, ruins, massacres and ... nothing else.

Rome, however, has left a civilization: we still live in its laws, we take advantage of its communication system, of the powerful and ingenious construction techniques, we speak its language, in many and different parts of the world.

Some of the peoples who were affected by the Roman domination had no mercy when in the following times, in turn, they found themselves in the role of the invaders. They destroyed, killed,

plundered: in this, sadly, the history of mankind is what it is. The "others" were no better. Once again the difference is in what remains afterwards. Or in what doesn't remain at all. Historiography is not subject to any illusory moral rankings, but certainly there is reason to be proud of the civilization that ancient Rome left us, proud of its heritage.

From the hard lesson of pandemics to racism, from the virus of corruption to the eagerness of innovation: the fascinating epic history of Rome - if you know how to read it - can chase away the darkness that often engulfs us, illuminate our present, build our future.

- **THREE EDITIONS FOR A TOTAL OF 18,000 COPIES**
- **RIGHT FROM PUBLICATION FOR FOUR WEEKS IN THE ITALIAN NON FICTION TOP 20**
- **TRANSLATION RIGHTS SOLD: SPANISH WORLD (EDHASA)**

PUBLISHER LIBRERIA PIENOGIORNO, MILAN

PUBLISHING DATE MARCH 31ST, 2021 - 174 PP.

VALERIO MASSIMO MANFREDI

SEI LEZIONI DI STORIA *(Six Lessons in History)*



From the marvellous wanderings of Ulysses to Alexander the Great's superhuman imperial dream, to the greatness of Julius Ceasar's thoughts and actions.

From the impressive technological inventions of antiquity, the events that saw the birth of the Roman Empire, the perilous navigations of the Carthaginians to the edge of the world, the medieval mysteries of the Templars.

Valerio Massimo Manfredi, in this precious volume, offers us six brand-new history lessons, and an additional special lesson on the figure of Ulysses.

Lessons in which the author of many bestselling historical novels manages to combine skilfully his deep historical knowledge with the fascination of a captivating narration. Exciting portraits and reconstructions that are able to reveal us all the timeless topicality and the eternity of the great historical and mythological characters.

- **TRANSLATION RIGHTS SOLD: SPANISH WORLD (EDHASA)**

PUBLISHER COMPAGNIA EDITORIALE ALIBERTI, REGGIO EMILIA (I)

- 171 PP.

VALERIO MASSIMO MANFREDI & FABIO MANFREDI

LA VITA E LA STORIA. ISTRUZIONI PER L'USO

(Life and History. Operation Manual)



"From Alexander the Great to Marcus Aurelius, to Hadrian's Wall, to Humanism, to Manzoni's plague, to earthquakes, to new epidemics. History is a terrible story, I know: blood, death, violence and horror. Then the spark ignites, and everything starts again". - Valerio Massimo Manfredi

This passion led him to devise the great archaeological adventure in the footsteps of the Path of the Ten Thousand narrated by Xenophon's Anàbasis.

There is the story of how the first historical novels were born. The success that didn't come immediately, but after much work and effort. And all this always keeping faith with his father's motto: 'Never say I am tired'.

A passionate narration of the pages of history that have always fascinated Valerio Massimo Manfredi the most. Ulysses, the man of multiform wits and dazzling mind, seen as the progenitor of a new humanity. Alexander the Great, the absolute visionary, with his dream of a global empire that did not come true, yet left us a magnificent legacy of civilisation,

technology and art. The horror of war and violence in the massacre of Teutoburg, the most painful tragedy in Roman military history. Up to those salient pages of contemporaneity such as the world wars of the 20th century, in which History, as a true *magistra vitae*, repeats and revisits itself

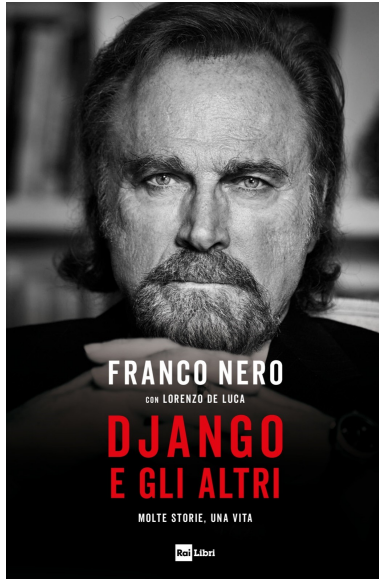
➤ **TRANSLATION RIGHTS SOLD: SPANISH WORLD (EDHASA)**

PUBLISHER COMPAGNIA EDITORIALE ALIBERTI, REGGIO EMILIA (I)

- 176 PP.

FRANCO NERO

DJANGO E GLI ALTRI. MOLTE STORIE, UNA VITA *(Django and the Others. Many Stories, One Life)*



Franco Nero is an icon of Italian and international cinema. He has worked in about 250 films in more than 30 countries, playing the most different roles.

Django is the character with whom he is certainly recognized in the world, but Franco Nero is much more than just Django: in his sixty-year career, his face has told an infinite number of stories and psychologies, and in this book, in an ideal dialogue with his most famous character, the great actor retraces his life, full of professional and private events that tell the golden years of cinema and the transition from the end of the twentieth century to the beginning of the third millennium.

Nero played in movies of great international directors such as John Huston, Buñuel, Fassbinder, Chabrol, Zeffirelli, Tarantino in his homage to the character of Django, and with the most famous actors from all over the world, such as Marlon Brando, Paul Newman, Laurence Olivier and - most important - with Vanessa

Redgrave, who became his lifelong partner: this is Franco Nero's story of a golden age of cinema in his big and small set stories, his private events, but above all of the determination of a man who has never spared himself in the face of the professional and personal challenges that life has put before him.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

For the Italian edition Franco Nero told mainly episodes related to famous Italian personalities, while he left off many anecdotes and encounters with international VIPs from many other countries. Nevertheless he collected also these **episodes that can be inserted according to the respective country in order to create a customized edition!**

Franco Nero is an actor, screenwriter, director and film producer.

In the sixty years from his debut in 1963, he has starred in about 250 films, including: *Io la conoscevo bene*, *Django*, *Camelot* (Golden Globe nominee 1968 as Best Debuting Actor), *Il giorno della civetta* (David di Donatello 1968 as Leading Actor), *Keoma*, *Tristana*, *Il delitto Matteotti*, *Zanna Bianca*, *Mussolini ultimo atto*, *Marcia trionfale*, *Querelle de Brest*, *Fratelli e sorelle*, *Django Unchained*.

He has received awards all over the world.

In 1992, President of the Italian Republic, Oscar Luigi Scalfaro awarded him the honour of Commendatore for his artistic merits.

Brunel University in London awarded him an honorary Doctor of Letters degree in 2011.

As a director, he won the Golden Globe - Special Jury Prize in 2006 with *Forever Blues*.

For more than fifty years he has been a supporter the Don Bosco Village in Tivoli (RM).

PUBLISHER

RAI LIBRI, ROME

- 352 PP. WITH PRIVATE PHOTOS