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NEW and SELECTED TITLES
SPRING 2025

NEW and SELECTED TITLES

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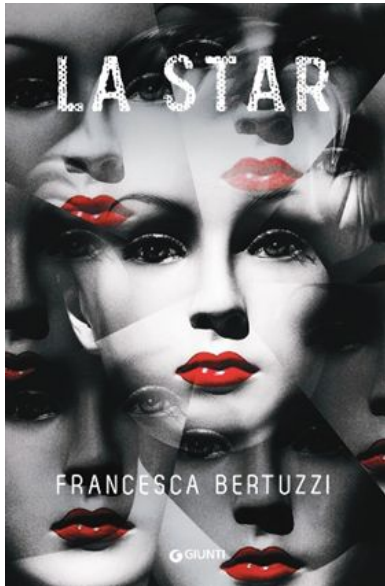
FRANCESCA BERTUZZI

La Star

Giunti, April 2024 | Pages 420

CONTEMPORARY THRILLER

Shortlist 2024 “Giallo e Nero di Puglia” Award



Francesca Bertuzzi was born in Rome in 1981. She holds a Master on “Theory and Technique of Fiction writing” from Holden School in Turin. She works as a script writer and film editor, has won price and international awards with several horrrt films. Her first book, published by Newton Compton, *Il carnefice*, was a great success and won the Premio letteratura e cinema Roberto Rossellini in 2011. Other titles are *Il sacrilegio* e *La belva* (Newton Compton 2013), and *Fammi male* (Mondadori 2018).

Island of Elba. Benedetta Cané, 34 years old, former beauty queen, is found confused after being kidnapped and searched by the police without success for months.

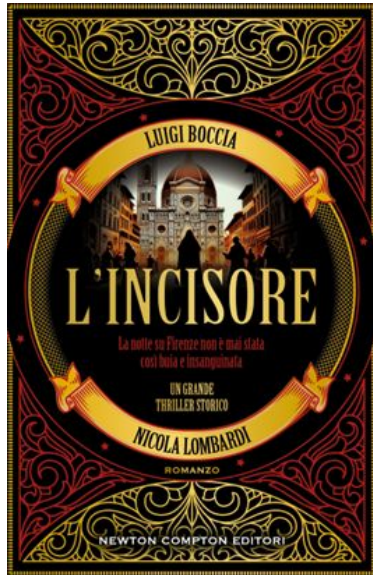
Everybody knows who she is, due to several viral videos filmed by her kidnapper, where she appears to be shocked, injured, undernourished, and chained in front of a webcam. Millions of followers around the world has thus become involved and lunched social media campaigns claiming her release.

When the news that she has finally been found free, many journalists from magazines, TV and radio networks come to the island with the only purpose to obtain exclusivity on the story. But it is Arianna Cané, Benedetta’s cousin and an important TV reporter, who will be the only one allowed to officially follow the case. So she goes back to her home land, many years after a tragic event that has deeply haunted her past and her family’s.

This way, the two young women will find themselves confronting each other, trying to find an answer to the only crucial question: what was the reason why of the kidnapping? What has really happened?

Yet, despite the fact that everything seems clear and simple, as the investigation progresses it becomes more and more evident that even the most elementary aspects actually hide a much more complex and terrible truth, that will force the two protagonists to confront their past and the darkest aspects of the human soul.

HISTORICAL THRILLER



Luigi Boccia is a fiction author, script writer, and film director: He has worked with several well-known cinema producers. Among his books, there are: *La Janara* (2007), *Leonardo da Vinci e la finestra sul tempo* (2014), *La Notte chiama* (2006), *Scarecrow* (2018).

Nicola Lombardi, born in Ferrara in 1965, debuted as writer in 1989 with a collection of short stories, *Ombre – 17 racconti del terrore*; in 90s is part of Roman literary movement Neo Noir. Among his novels we remember *I Ragni Zingari*, *Madre Nera*, *La notte chiama* (with Luigi Boccia) and *La Cisterna*.

He doesn't have any name or face, but everyone calls him the Engraver. No one knows why he kills, but on every corpse he leaves messages that refer to the Divine Comedy. Will Flaviano Altobrandini be able to decipher them?

Florence, 1679. Flaviano Altobrandini, who has taken refuge in Florence to save himself from the Pope's revenge, is requested by Paolo de' Medici at night. The nobleman asks Flaviano to investigate on some crimes committed by a mysterious man named the Engraver because of the obscure surgical practices inflicted on his victims. Everything seems connected to a well-known doctor and alchemist, Ermete Moraldi, who disappeared in a suspicious fire fifteen years before. Hermetic clues are hidden among the verses of a copy of the Divine Comedy which belonged to a crazy alchemist, Alberico Grifi. Flaviano will have to find them to understand the plan that the Engraver is pursuing...

CONTEMPORARY CRIME



Michele Burgio, born in the Sicilian hinterland, has lived in Palermo for 20 years with his wife and son. He worked as dialectology researcher at the University there and is now a humanities teacher.

A missing boy in a burning summer in Sicily, where justice can be cruel and twisted.

A very dark story told in a heart-wrenching ironic style.

In Serrapriola, a small village of the Sicilian hinterland, the ancient crucifix has been restored with the donations provided by the believers but has never been returned to its place in the church. Why? And what is happening to the group of teen-agers known as “The Best Ones”, i.e. Gesualdo, Luca, Rosario and his brother Kevin? Is something elapsing the control of the local boss of the area, don Orazio Scuderi?

The day young Luca suddenly disappears, Inspector Maira and public prosecutor Ammirata will have to chose between two opposite leads to find the truth, and most of all to disclose it.

ROBERTO CARBONI Il mistero di Villa Lamento

Newton Compton, September 2024 | Pages 288

CONTEMPORARY THRILLER

A gloomy hotel, a disturbing valley, an elusive killer... and a dense blanket of secrets.



Roberto Carbone was born in Bologna in 1968. He lives on the hills surrounding the city. He has worked as a taxi driver for seventeen years before becoming a full time writer and creative writing teacher. In 2015, he won the Nettuno D'Oro prize, the most important prize for artists of the city of Bologna. In 2017 he was awarded the Garfagnana in Giallo prize for the section Romanzo Classic. In 2018 he was shortlisted for the prestigious SalerNoir Festival of the city of Salerno. He has published several novels with Fratelli Frilli Editori 8 *Bologna destinazione notte* (2013), *Il dentista* (2014), *L'Ammiratore* (2015) and *Agenzia Bonetti & Bruno* (2016, *Dalla morte in poi* (2017), *Per buoni sentimenti rivolgetevi altrove* (2018)). With his dark plots all set in Bologna, he manages to explore the deepest paths of human souls, portraying their most desperate and corrupt sides. This is his fourth novel with Newton Compton Editori, after the very successful *Il giallo di Villa Nebbia* (2020), *La collina dei delitti* (2021) and *Il segreto dell'antiquario* (2022).

1968. The Italian-American journalist Paul Cialdini wakes up from coma in hospital, discovering that he has been assaulted and his girlfriend is dead. Trying to find out what happened and who attacked them, he arrives at *Villa Lamento*, a disturbing abbey converted into a hotel, taking its name from the wind that blows through its windows sounding like chilling groans. The valley is just as frightful as the hotel. Rumour has it that for twenty years a killer more than two meters tall has been running at the night in search for victims, to break their necks and tear their bodies. Does a link exist between Villa Lamento's secrets and Paul's assault? The journalist has to investigate despite the hostility of the inhabitants of the valley to find the truth. But not everything is what it seems and each step will be more dangerous than the previous one...

ALFREDO COLITTO I delitti della Chimera

Mondadori, March 2024 | Pages 250

HISTORICAL THRILLER

The fascinating investigations of Mondino de' Liuzzi return in the fifth episode of the saga



Alfredo Colitto was born in Campobasso, studied in Bologna, and has long lived abroad, mostly in Mexico, where his first novel, *Café Nopal* (Alacrán, 2005), was set. His most successful works are the trilogy *Cuore di ferro*, *I discepoli del fuoco*, *Il libro dell'angelo*, and *Il segreto dell'alchimista* sold in 8 languages. All of them feature serial character Mondino de' Liuzzi, the first anatomist in the history of surgery. He also works as one of the most highly regarded translators in Italy.
www.alfredo-colitto.com

It is a full moon night. A two-horse wagon covered with a black cloth stops near a house, in the shadows. "Go, my children. Go and kill!" says the driver. Two strange beings, moving like animals, run towards the house, and suddenly from inside there is yelling and noises. After a little while people rush out to find out what is going on, but the wagon is already gone and only a corpse remains, horrendously mauled as if by a wild beast.

Mr. Fondieri, a well-known judge, is the victim. Besides the beast that possibly mauled him, there was also a human murderer, because he left a big X written in blood as a signature. The murder is being investigated by Mondino de' Liuzzi, a famous doctor and anatomist, who now *adiutor iustitiae ad maleficia*, or collaborator of justice for murders. Mondino finds himself in a very delicate position, because he is an investigator, but he is also under investigation himself, accused of having dissected fetuses and babies' corpses for his scientific research. This is already a serious charge, but if his accusers should find proof that one of those babies has been killed by him for dissecting purposes, Mondino would be put to death.

But Fondieri is not the only victim. Shortly after there are more, all blamed on a trained Chimaera, because the murderer always leaves a X, which is the initial of the word Chimaera in Greek, written in blood on the scene.

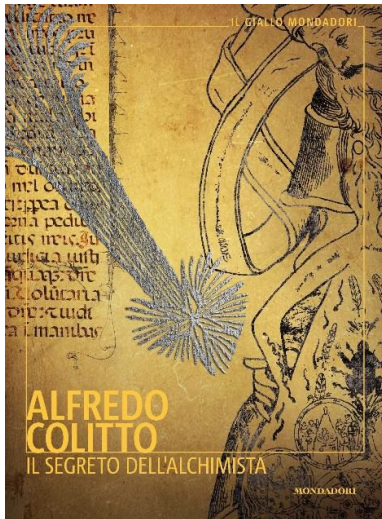
AIT is such a tough enquiry that also Mondino's oldest son Gabardino and his wife Mina will help in the investigation, but covertly, because Mondino wants to keep them both out of harm and forbids their involvement. They will all succeed in solving the mystery and capturing the murderer, with a final plot twist. SO Mondino can now enjoy his family, while waiting for his next adventure.

ALFREDO COLITTO **Il segreto dell'alchimista**

Mondadori Libri, April 2022 | Pages 424

HISTORICAL THRILLER

The Long awaited fourth episode featuring Mondino de' Liuzzi



Bologna, September 1314. The appearance of a comet in the sky upset the people in the city, who don't understand whether it's a positive or negative sign. Meanwhile, Mondino de' Liuzzi witnesses the cruel death of an alchemist on the verge to reveal something important to him. But he will never manage to utter the words he wanted to tell the famous doctor and anatomist, as he has been poisoned and savagely stabbed and the symbol of Saturn has been tattooed on his forehead.

Pellaio dei Pellai, the public officer in charge of the inquiry, who is a fierce enemy of Mondino's, accuses him of the murder. Mondino, with the help of his wife and son, can do nothing but investigate to defend himself.

But when, days later, other corpses – always with strange alchemic symbols on their forehead – are found in the cathedral and a series of terrible ritual homicides will follow soon after, the protagonist will be forced to cooperate with Pellaio, who will take advantage of Mondino's knowledge and skills but, at the same time, will try plan his revenge. They all understand that something terrible is happening and will have to get engaged in a fight against time...

ALFREDO COLITTO

Il libro dell'angelo – III Volume della trilogia dedicata a Mondino de' Liuzzi (The Angel's Book) – Vol III of the Mondino de' Liuzzi trilogy

Mondadori Libri – Il Giallo da libreria, April 2022 | Pages 368

HISTORICAL THRILLER

Winner Azzecagarbugli Prize 2012

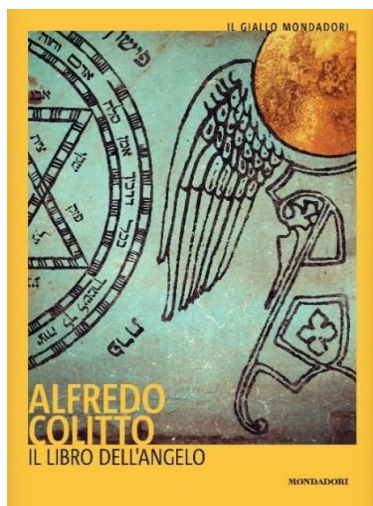
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May 1313. In this third book Mondino de' Liuzzi, anatomist in medieval Italy, travels from Bologna to Venice in order to save Eleazar of Worms, an innocent Jew who has been accused of having crucified three Christian children. But the real reason for his charge is that he is the keeper of the Sefer-ha-Razim, the Book of Mysterries, dictated by Archangel Raziel to Noah, who transcribed it on a small sapphire slab. A Venetian noble, Vettor Gradenigo, discovered his secret and now wants the book, threatening to torture Eleazar's son to obtain it.

Mondino tries his best to save him, but Eleazar, understanding that only his own death might mean freedom for his son, kills himself while he is in jail. He leaves a message written with blood on the cell's wall. The message seems plain enough, but Mondino suspects it has a hidden meaning. He also discovers a strange jewel with golden symbols hidden in the crucified children's throat. He talks about that with Adia Bintaba, the Arabian alchemist he met in Book 1. Adia is ill, but always beautiful, and Mondino yields to her charm, feeling guilty because he is about to marry Mina de' Gandoni, the self-willed and beautiful woman he met in Book 2.

In the meantime, Gerardo of Castelbreton, the knight templar co-protagonist of all three books, comes to rescue Mondino. Gerardo has a mission of his own: he must accompany to Portugal Pietro da Bologna, the Templar's lawyer. But French spies want to rob them of a precious document: the map of the Austral Territories, mythical lands beyond the sea where the Templars have founded a small community of sages. When the French spies link with the Venetian government, when a necromancer is found crucified in the same horrible way as the three children, and when Eleazar's message is deciphered, the hunt becomes frantic...

ALFREDO COLITTO
I discepoli del fuoco
(The Fire Disciples)

Mondadori Libri – Il Giallo da libreria, April 2022 | Pages 464

HISTORICAL THRILLER

Second place Azzecagarbugli Prize 2011

Winner Noir Mediterraneo Prize 2011

Winner Fedeli Prize 2011

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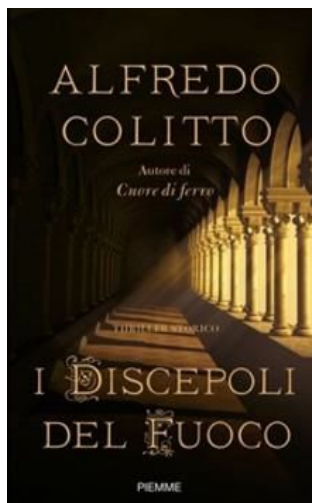
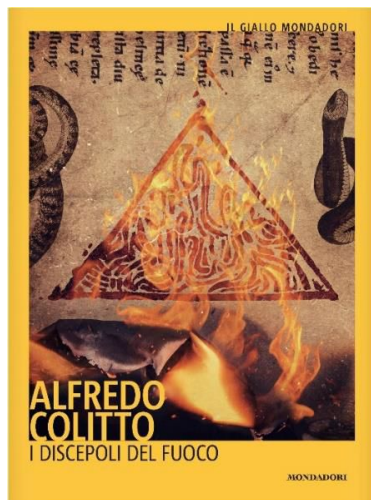
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Turkish Rights: Yakamoz

Spanish rights: Martinez Roca - rights reverted

French Rights: Editions L'Archipel



Second episode of Mondino de' Liuzzi's historical thrillers. Bologna, autumn 1312. Mondino de' Liuzzi inquires into the death of a man whose body was found burned to death in his house. But there is no sign of fire, even the armchair on which the man was sitting is undamaged. Mondino has to ask for Gerardo of Castelbreton's help, the young templar who helped him in the first episode, and who now lives in a convent as a layman. Thanks to a tattoo representing Zurvàn, a lion-headed winged monster, whose body is wrapped in the coils of a snake, the two men find out a sect worshipping Mithra, the Persian God of the sun and the fire. The adepts are convinced that the Evil is taking possession of the world: the only thing to do is giving up the fight and taking refuge in Mithra, after setting fire to the city in order to purify as many souls as possible. The fire will have to take place the day of the winter solstice, a sacred date which also passed into the Christian tradition. In fact it is now called Christmas: 25 December is approaching, not much time is left...

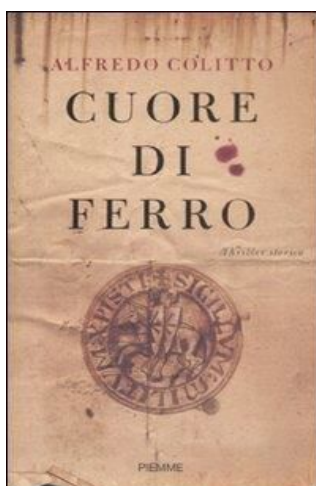
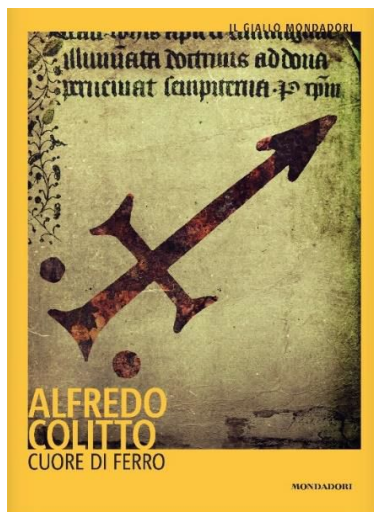
ALFREDO COLITTO
Cuore di Ferro
(The Iron Heart)

Mondadori Libri – Il Giallo da libreria, 2022 | Pages 448

HISTORICAL THRILLER

Shortlisted Salgari Prize 2009

Spanish Rights sold to Viceversa - rights reverted; German Rights sold to Page & Turner; Brazilian Rights sold to Underworld; UK & Commonwealth Rights sold to Little Brown Books - rights reverted; English Canadian rights McArthur & Co - rights reverted; French Rights Editions L'Archipel; Serbian rights IKP EVROGIUNTI; Turkish Rights Yakamoz



Bologna, A.D. 1311. In the middle of the night, the corpse of a man who has been killed in a horrible way is brought for examination to Mondino de'Liuzzi, surgeon and anatomist at the Studium (University) of Bologna. When Mondino opens up the bosom of the man, he realizes to his horror that the man's heart has turned into a solid block of iron. Seduced by the possibility of transmuting blood into iron, Mondino agrees to help a young Templar, Gerardo da Castel Bretonne, disguised as a medicine student, to remove the corpse and make it disappear. To protect Gerardo, Mondino is forced to lie to Inquisitor Uberto da Rimini, who has been fiercely prosecuting the Templars. His only hope to save his life is to get to the killer before the Dominican Inquisitors do. More deaths will happen and his will become a run against time...

CONTEMPORARY NARRATIVE NON FICTION



Pino Corrias lives and works in Rome as a writer, journalist, and TV producer. His novel *Dormiremo da vecchi* has been translated and published in USA, France, Spain, Greece, Holland, Denmark and Bulgaria. The film was released at the Los Angeles Chinese Theater and was on in 250 Italian theaters. Corrias was special correspondent for *La Stampa* and currently writes for *Il Venerdì di Repubblica* and *Vanity Fair*. He produced several successful investigative reports and fiction movies for RAI (the state-owned Italian TV channels): *Mani pulite*, *Ilaria Alpi - L'ultimo viaggio* and the TV series *La meglio gioventù*, *Coliandro*, *Catturandi*. Among his books: *Disordini sentimentali* (Mondadori), *Vita agra di un anarchico* (Feltrinelli), *Luoghi comuni* (Rizzoli), *Vicini da morire* (Mondadori). He also writes for various important newspapers and weekly magazines: “il Fatto Quotidiano”, “il Venerdì di Repubblica”, “Vanity Fair”. His newest novel is soon to be released by SEM/Feltrinelli.

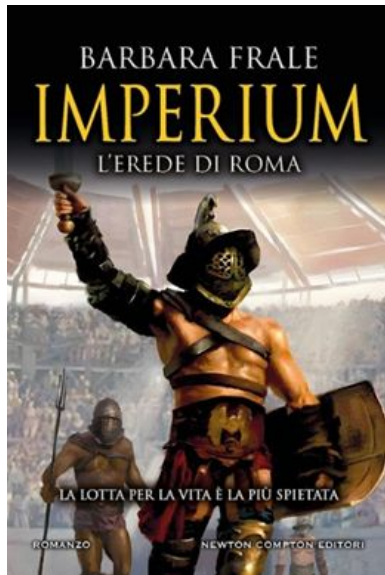
Texas, 1993. In the Huntsville Prison Joseph Paul Jernigan is sentenced to death and executed. His body is donated to Science and transformed in the digitized atlas of the human body. Starting from this, Pino Corrias takes a journey from Texas to New York, to the very heart of the USA. He wants to give back to “Prisoner No. 699” the story of his life and death. The places where he lived, the witnesses who knew him, the sheriff who arrested him, the judge who condemned him, his mother and his partner, other prisoners.

He manages to put together a report of extraordinary lucidity, on justice, violence, revenge as punishment and compensation for the victims. But, above all, on the American society, the light that still radiates from it, its abyss that is increasingly scaring us. And he does it by talking about a kind of America that still involves us, with its myths, its contradictions, its sleepless so often armed paranoia ...

BARBARA FRALE **Imperium**

Newton Compton, July 2024| Pages 288

HISTORICAL NOVEL



Barbara Frale (Viterbo 1970) is a well known researcher specialized in the Middle Ages, known for her studies on the Knights Templar and the Holy Shroud. She has written several monographs, has been invited to several TV shows and historical documentaries about the Templar process and the Holy Shroud. Along with Franco Cardini, she was historical advisor for the international fiction TV series *I Medici. Lorenzo il Magnifico*, broadcasted on national network RAI. After the successful *I sotterranei di Notre-Dame*, with Newton Compton she has also published *In nome dei Medici. Il romanzo di Lorenzo il Magnifico* on Lorenzo's younger brother Giuliano de' Medici (2019), *La torre maledetta dei Templari* (2020), *I labirinti di Notre Dame* (2022), *Maledizione Notre Dame* (2023), and the essay *I grandi imperi del Medioevo* (2021).

Rome, 79 d.C. *Panem et circensem* control the violent plebs, meanwhile emperor Vespasiano would like to nominate his son, Tito, as his successor during the one hundred days of games to inaugurate the Colosseum. Additionally, Vespasiano would like to have Tito marry the niece of Pudente, the powerful head of the aediles, to obtain an unassailable position in the Senate. His plan seems to be realizing, when Berenice, queen of Jews in exile, arrives in Rome. She has been Tito's greatest love, who has never forgotten her. But he doesn't know that she came to the city to search her lost daughter, made a hostage in the hands of the Romans. The baby is now a grown up gladiator and her name is Achillia. Unfortunately Achillia's destiny is in the balance, and Tito will have to choose between his love for Berenice and his role of future emperor.

DEBORAH GAMBETTA

Incompletezza

Una storia di Kurt Gödel

Ponte alle Grazie, March 2024 | Pages 624

LITERARY NARRATIVE NON FICTION

Winner 2024 "Mondello" Award - Special Prize for Literature
Shortlist 2024 "Dessi" Award



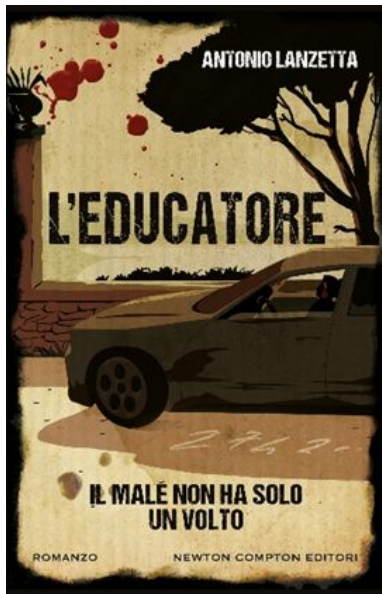
Deborah Gambetta was born in Torino in 1970, lived for a long while in Massa Lombarda, near Ravenna, and eventually moved back to Turin. Her first teen-age novel, *Viaggio di maturità* (EL) came out in 1998, followed by *La colpa* (Rizzoli, 2003), *Il silenzio che viene alla fine* (Einaudi, 2005), *E' tutto a posto* (Edizioni Ambiente-Verdenero, 2011) e *L'argine* (Melville Edizioni, 2016). Her short stories were published in the following collections: *Patrie Impure* (Rizzoli, 2004) and *Ragazze che dovrete conoscere* (Einaudi, 2004).

An elegant literary text across different genres, partly a novel, partly biography, partly autofiction, partly narrative non-fiction. In a very difficult moment of her life, author Deborah Gambetta was particularly and unexpectedly attracted by the life and theories of Kurt Gödel, well known Austrian mathematician and philosopher, who lived and taught at Princeton. Question might be: What does a contemporary woman writer from Romagna has in common with an early 20th century scholar of such a different discipline? Yet the answer can be found in this captivating work. Both mathematicians and writers share the quest for the ultimate sense of our existence, an absolute truth that elapses most peoples' comprehension.

CONTEMPORARY THRILLER

Winner of *Prix coup de coeur du jury Noir Charbon* 2024 with the novel "L'uomo senza Sonno"

Shortlisted for *Prix Masterton* 2025 with the novel "L'uomo senza sonno"



Antonio Lanzetta lives in Salerno. He began with fantasy/young adult novels, then he prefers to concentrate on thriller, with *Nella pioggia*, a short story shortlisted at Gran Giallo di Cattolica award, and *Il buio dentro*, translated in France, Canada, Belgium and nominee by «Sunday Times» as one of the best foreign thriller of the year. Newton Compton published *L'uomo senza sonno*, *Delitto in riva al mare* and *Luna Rosso Sangue*.

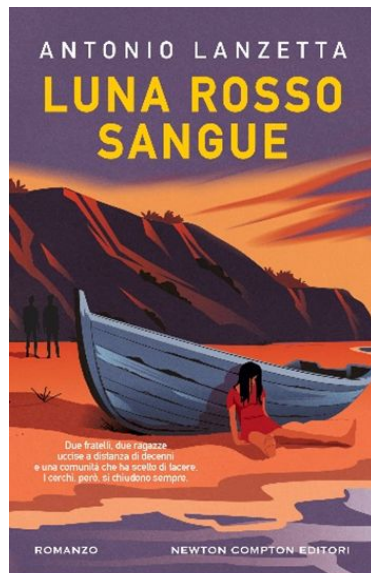
1999. Police officers De Santis and Lanzara are tracking down The Educator, a cruel serial killer who brutalizes and kills young men. The investigation will be long and complex but will lead to the killer's death during a keen final confrontation.

Nowday. Assistant police commissioner De Santis has to investigate the death of Judge Borrelli, killed in his car with a nail gun. On the dashboard of the car, written with a chalk, they find an apparently meaningless sequence of numbers, but that De Santis knows very well and which is directly related to The Educator. He has left a wound in the life of the policeman which has never healed, because in that enquire De Santis has lost everything he had in life. Together with officers Lanzara and Ferri, De Santis will have to penetrate into the sick minds of two young people, who have devoted their lives to dissolving the shadows around the famous serial killer and decided to kill anybody who could have stopped the murderer and have not.

ANTONIO LANZETTA **Luna Rosso Sangu**

Newton Compton, May 2024 | Pages 288

CONTEMPORARY THRILLER



Pietro and Toni Casale aren't born criminals, but they had to become so because of a dramatic event that destroyed their family during '90s. From then they lead an existence between car theft and criminal acts, until they get a phone call that will change everything forever. Luisa, a college student and daughter of two friends, is disappeared and police can't find her. Casale brothers have the opportunity to get even with the past, until Luisa's body is found on the beach. There is something really strange in the way they found her, a way that seems related to something happened in summer 1994. Now Pietro and Toni have to hunt the killer and, at the same time, they have to confront a world they thought was behind.

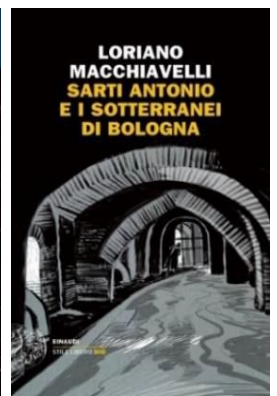
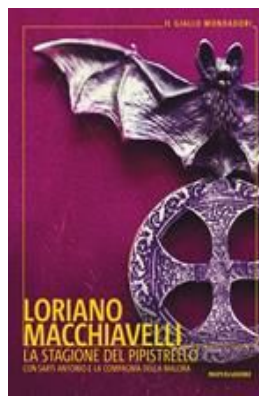
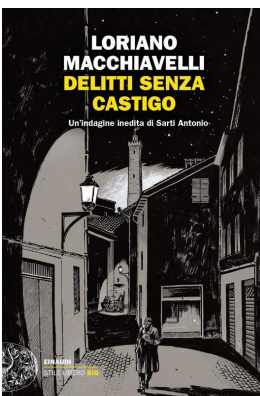
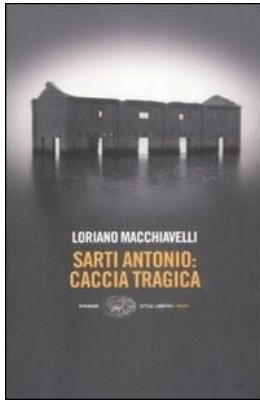
LORIANO MACCHIAVELLI

Selected titles from series with Sarti Antonio

UPMARKET CRIME FICTION

Foreign Languages:

Germany(Btb), Netherlands(Serena), France (Editions Métailié/Chemin du Fer)



LORIANO MACCHIAVELLI Trilogy

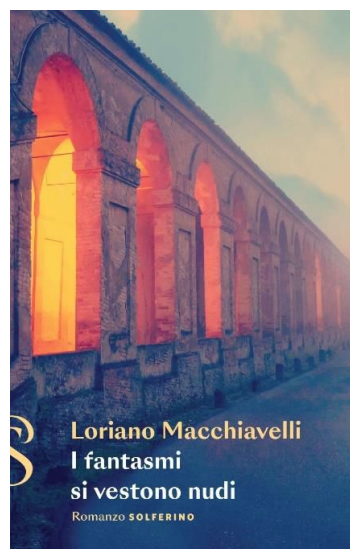
UPMARKET CRIME FICTION



LORIANO MACCHIAVELLI Various titles

Foreign Languages:

Germany(Btb), Netherlands(Serena), France (Editions Metailié/Chemin du Fer)



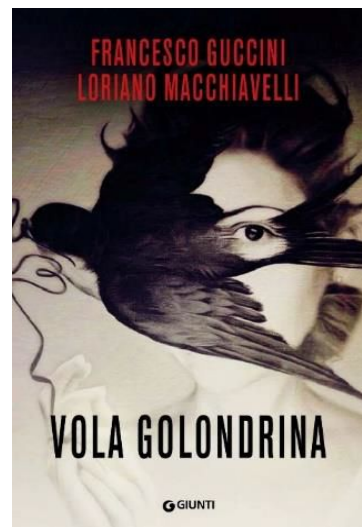
LORIANO MACCHIAVELLI

Selected titles written with Francesco Guccini

UPMARKET CRIME FICTION

Foreign Languages:

Germany (Btb)



LORIANO MACCHIAVELLI

La balla dalle scarpe di ferro

Einaudi Stile Libero, September 2024 | Pages 376

UPMARKET CRIME FICTION



Loriano Macchiavelli was born in Vergato (Bologna) in 1934. He began to work in the world of theatre and then starting from 1974 he devoted himself to writing crime and noir novels. He published over 30 novels becoming one of the best-established Italian crime/mystery authors. He created Sarti Antonio, one of the most popular Italian policemen. His novels have been adapted for TV series. Mondadori publishes front titles in their major hardcover series. Einaudi is re-issuing his major backlist. His books have been widely sold abroad and he has won many literary prizes.

A historical crime that has enthralled generations of readers, writers and booksellers for forty years.

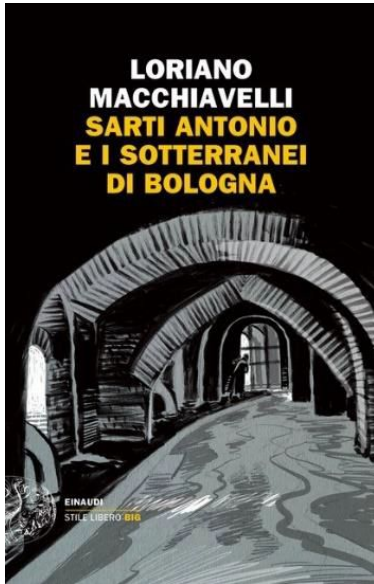
1870. Bologna is in the throes of the *Balle*, free associations of self-defense and mutual assistance. They live on the edge and against the law, and quite often get criminal. The most feared and dangerous is the *Balla* with Iron Shoes. Born after the reunification of Italy, it specializes in thefts and murders, many of them with political goals. To bring order back to the city, police commissioner Felice Pinna arrives from Sardinia. He puts on a special team to infiltrate the various *balle* tyrinnising the land. But his plan is hampered by terrible violence and a series of dark and shady plkoys.

With his sharp insight and enthralling style Loriano Macchiavelli manages to depict a Kingdom of Italy that much resembles the country we know too well nowadays, with its intrigues and dark plots.

LORIANO MACCHIAVELLI
I sotterranei di Bologna
(Bologna's Underground)

Einaudi Stile Libero, August 2023| Pages 376

UPMARKET CRIME FICTION



This time Bologna reveals itself as a very dangerous place to sergeant Sarti Antonio. His colleague Zodiaco Mainardi, known as Oroscopo, is found dead in the ancient dock called Battiferro. It seems that the victim, who served in Sicily, was somehow related to the mafia and they found a package of drugs in his flat. But Sarti Antonio doesn't accept this too easy solution and is convinced that is necessary to continue investigating. During his inquiry, our sergeant will run into a different kind of Bologna, which he didn't imagine the existence of. The one of ancient waterways, sewers, underground and its unpredictable inhabitants.

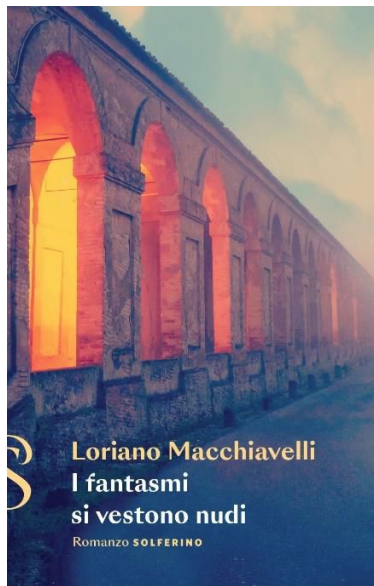
LORIANO MACCHIAVELLI

I fantasmi vestono nudi

Solferino, April 18th 2023 | Pages 208

UPMARKET FICTION

Loriano Macchiavelli once again goes back to Bologna, telling us a fairy tale where past and present join together in a fascinating and delicate, really poetic story, where the subtle line between the living and the dead becomes extremely thin and the relationship between humans and ghosts deep and real.



Bologna 1956. Biella, 16 years old, and Santo, 17 years old, are two friends, both very passionate of cycling, who are great fans of the famous bike race Giro d'Italia.

One night Santo decides to emulate the challenge of his myth, Charly Gaul. He goes to San Luca, a church on the hill overlooking Bologna where a charming portico develops.

It's under this colonnade that Santo has the most incredible of meetings, when, on a full moon night, he bumps into Crisantemia, a young naked ghost girl who attracts him deeply in a very charming way.

From now on, a strong relationship develops between the two of them, leading Santo to delve into the story of the young woman—thus learning the history of Bologna under bombings in 1944—, and then backwards until 18th century, discovering what happened during the building of San Luca ...

LORIANO MACCHIAVELLI

Funerale dopo Ustica (Funeral after Ustica)

SEM, May 2022| Pages 528

UPMARKET SPY THRILLER
With three new chapters

“Funerale dopo Ustica” was published for the first time for by Rizzoli in May 1989 and sold, only in the first three weeks, 80.000 copies. Lorian Macchiavelli has revised and updated his novel, in the light of the facts revealed by enquiries and investigation that took place after the dramatic plane crash of Ustica (27 June 1980) and of the legal development that emerged in over 40 years.



Red and black terrorists who kill and are ready to die for their ideals. Infiltrated and corrupted Secret Services, whose officers do not hesitate to double or even triple cross. A "summit" formed by excellent and unexpected personalities who want to destabilize the Italian government and take the power. A ruthless international killer acting under the shelter of perfect hedges, and his designated victim: the President of the Italian Republic. A futuristic deadly weapon, technically perfect, built piece by piece. Victorhugo, the great "puppet master", a mysterious character who moves to his liking the ranks of massacres and murders. Stefano Degiorgi, a "clean" agent of the Italian secret services, hunted by the "dirty" secret services (Italian and not) and even by those killers he should be chasing. Mila Santini, a passionate woman who is playing her game to the extreme. A long, relentless pursuit carried out without mercy, which takes place in Italy and Europe from 1974 to 1981. Here are just some of the ingredients and the protagonists of this incredible story that will have its surprising and unexpected climax on DC9 Itavia shot down in the sky of Ustica. A labyrinth of intrigues and plots, facts and events recounted according to the principle that adherence to reality is always much more fantastic than any fiction. Cynicism, hate, love, sex, violence, loyalty, faithfulness, sense of duty, greed, unbridled ambition: these are the factors that make these protagonists act, kill and revenge.

This is a wonderful spy story, a great adventure and action book written by a man who knows many unknown things.

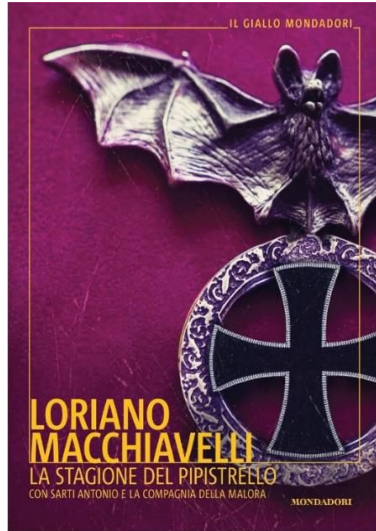
LORIANO MACCHIAVELLI

La stagione del pipistrello con Sarti Antonio e la Compagnia della Malora

Mondadori, March 2022 | Pages 392

UPMARKET CRIME FICTION

An intriguing new case for Sarti Antonio in a contemporary and dangerous Bologna.



Bologna. It is a deep dark night, and sergeant Sarti Antonio and his friend Rosas find the body of a man in a build-up of garbage, who seems to be still alive. They call for help and the guy is admitted to the intensive care unit at Ospedale Maggiore.

Only the morning after the two will discover that the guy is actually a woman, the famous Biondina, Sarti's closest friend, who was drugged, brutally hit and abandoned believed to be dead. On her back, there is a small tattoo, a black cross, a symbol of the Teutonic Knights, which was resumed but he Nazis.

Sarti and Rosas begin to investigate, and their research leads them to discover a neo-Nazi association, operating in conjunction with an international criminal organisation.

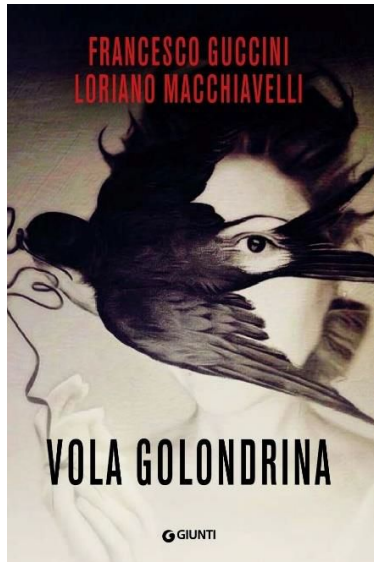
From now on, Sarti's troubles seem to never find an end in a determined fight to avoid a dangerous past to come back...

LORIANO MACCHIAVELLI E FRANCESCO GUCCINI

Vola Golondrina

Giunti Editore, October 2023 | Pages 288

UPMARKET HISTORICAL CRIME FICTION



Francesco Guccini is one of the most famous singer and songwriter in Italy. He started publishing books in 1989 and has had several ones published since then, first with Feltrinelli, then with Mondadori and now with Giunti.

Together Macchiavelli and Guccini have written *Macaroni* (Mondadori 2020, 1997), *Un disco dei Platters* (Mondadori 1998, to be released by Giunti in 2021), *Questo sangue che impasta la terra* (Mondadori 2001, to be released by Giunti in 2021), *Tango e gli altri* (2007), all of them published by Mondadori and now being re-issued by Giunti; and *Che cosa sa Minosse*, published by Giunti in 2020. All of them have been very successful and have had several reprints.

April 1948. Montefosco, Appennino in the center of Italy. In an abandoned house a body is found cruelly murdered.

Bologna, 1972. Penelope Rocchi, called Lope, a young journalist, has to return to Montefosco, where she was born, to investigate on Ardito Richeldi, a political man involved in neofascist groups, dead because of a gunshot from a Spanish gun of the 30's.

Spain, 1936. The Italian communist Pedro and the anarchist Bakunin are fighting with the International Brigades; there Pedro fell in love with Golondrina, with whom had little Maria...

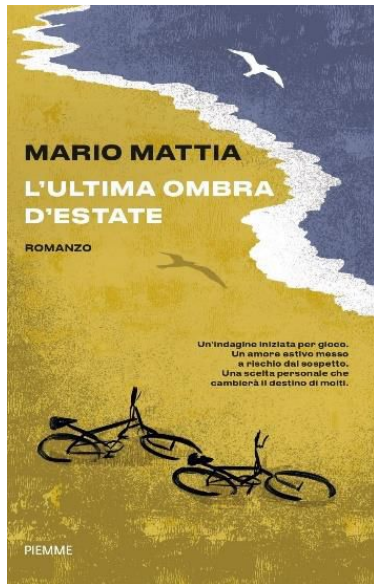
Between bloody Barcelona and the poetic and evocative Appennini, Lope Rocchi will have to investigate on a difficult past to reveal what had really happened, defending at all costs fundamental ideals of truth, freedom and justice from something very dangerous and uncontrollable, present still in our days.

MARIO MATTIA
L'ultima ombra d'estate
(The Last Shadow of Summer)

Piemme, March 2023 | Pages 272

CONTEMPORARY FICTION

A coming of age story from harsh beautiful Sicily of the '70s, to Milan during terrorism age, till a hard-earned awareness of freedom



Mario Mattia, a geologist, was born and raised in Sicily, where he still lives and works as volcanologist. This is his first novel.

Summer 1972: Marco, 18 years old, is forced by his family to join his uncle's family in Licata, after a hard winter when he has discovered a strong political passion for left-wing extremism. The unexpected love story with his childhood friend, Tiziana, forces him to reconsider his convictions and to have doubts about the life and values he is aiming to, but his random involvement in the investigation of the suspected mafia murder of an elderly farmer will lead Marco and his cousin Sandra to suspect a complex picture of interests behind this affair.

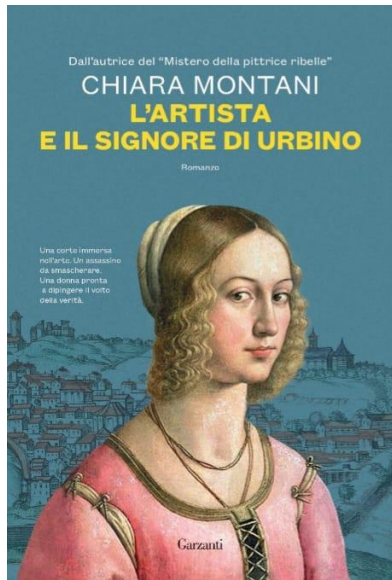
2006: After a new murder in Licata, Sandra contacts Laura Torrissi, the prosecutor of the case, and manages to have her re-open the cold case that destroyed Marco's and Tiziana's love and lives. Thus, the prosecutor will follow new evidences that will lead her to discover an unexpected truth and bring hope to Marco, Sandra, and Tiziana, who had paid such a high price in terms suffering for so many years.

CHIARA MONTANI L'artista e il signore di Urbino



Garzanti, March 2025 | Pages 400

HISTORICAL SUSPENSE FICTION
SOLD AT AUCTION IN A 4 BOOK DEAL!



Chiara Montani lives in Crema, where she works as a graphic artist and an art therapist. She is the author of *Il mistero della pittrice ribelle* and *La ritrattista*, and *Enigma Tiziano*, a standalone set on Lake Garda during Nazi occupation. Her entire narrative production was acquired by Garzanti in a 4 book deal.

In November 2024 was published by UTET *Ciò che una donna può fare*, which presents the story of some of the most important Italian female artists.

Urbino, 1461. Piero della Francesca is at the court of the Montefeltro family with Ottaviano Ubaldini, Count Federico's nephew, protector of art and science, astrologer and scholar of ancient disciplines. They are working on a mysterious composition with an ostrich egg when, through the window, they can spot the sudden death of a man taking place in front of a large audience during a sacred performance.

Piero runs over and immediately realises that the victim was poisoned. In his hands he is holding an incomprehensible message, a harsh invective in verse against Ottaviano and Federico da Montefeltro.

Meanwhile in Rome Lavinia, who has been widow for two months, accepts the offer of Battista Sforza, Federico's wife, to follow her to Urbino, where she can meet Piero again. The man who abandoned her two years before and that she has never forgotten.

But mysteries are not over. The tragic death of a doctor, a stealthy figure moving at night, the disappearance of a precious painting, an old nurse keeper of unspeakable truths, a room servants have a sacred terror to go into, the appearance of increasingly ferocious poems, all of these end up bringing Piero and Lavinia together. The passion between them that had never extinguished, and is now rekindled.

The young woman and the painter will need to find all of their courage to face a diabolic plot aimed at destroying a dream of beauty and knowledge destined to leave an indelible trace in art and history.

CHIARA MONTANI

Ciò che una donna può fare



Utet, November 2024 | Pages 216

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE NON FICTION



If we browse through the pages of any Italian art history book, we will only find male artists. It seems Italian art history was only made by men, as if women artists did not exist. Only a few women's names shall appear but only as bizarre oddities ...

In this book, Chiara Montani, passionate scholar and exceptional storyteller, manages to show that this is not true. Art history, main currents, different styles and techniques are told exclusively through the works of women artists, who have remained invisible to critics, quite often for too long. From Properzia de' Rossi, the 16th century sculptress from Bologna, to Artemisia Gentileschi, the only woman painter that even more traditional critics could't avoid ignoring, from Sofonisba Anguissola to Leonor Fini, Montani travels across time: from the powerful shades of Renaissance to the lightness of the 18th century, all the way to impressionism, futurism and modern time. Thanks to her ability to "read" works and reconstruct biographies and contexts in which women authors tried to emerge, Chiara Montani shows us *what a woman can do*, proving that the history of art we know has serious gaps, and that female artists for too long kept in hiding, were not only rebellious daughters of the bourgeoisie or eccentric aristocrats, but complete artists, capable to actively contribute to the great history of Italian art.

CHIARA MONTANI **Enigma Tiziano**

Garzanti, September 2023 | Pages 372

HISTORICAL SUSPENSE FICTION
SOLD AT AUCTION IN A 4 BOOK DEAL!

Shortlist 2024/2025 Amalago Award



Garda Lake, summer 1942. A young art restorer, Aida, returns to her hometown for her sister Bianca's wedding. During works for renovation of her house, Bianca finds an ancient and mysterious painting, totally covered with black paint. So she asks Aida to work on it and clean it. The protagonist discovers an image of such disconcerting violence, but at the same time so powerful and brilliant that leads Aida to suppose the author might be the famous painter Tiziano himself.

Meanwhile, Aida is called to Venice by her mentor, professor of Art History at the University there. Officially he asks her to cooperate in the protection of Italy artistic heritage from the damages of the war. Unofficially to work with a clandestine partisan organization that is trying to prevent and sabotage the theft of artworks by the nazis and SSs.

In Venice the woman meets Vittorio Sartori, an art expert with an elusive personality and a dubious reputation but such a charme and great charisma, to whom she turns in search of more informations about the presumed Tiziano.

But WW2 bursts into their lives: the armistice on September 8 leads to the foundation of the Republic of Salò and Aida has to deal with a difficult daily and family life in which a ruthless nazi colonel with the obsession of art and ready to do anything to get what he wants, comes in and destroys all of their plans.

Aida is exposed on the front line, divided between her Partisan fight, the love for Vittorio and the one for art and a mystery from her past, suddenly coming to light, messing everything up ...

CHIARA MONTANI
La Ritrattista
(The Female Portrait Painter)

Garzanti, April 2022 | Pages 346

HISTORICAL THRILLER

SOLD AT AUCTION ON A 4 BOOK DEAL!

French rights: Fleuve



Rome, 1459. In the palace of Antonio della Vale, old friend of Piero della Francesca, an arson, in which Antonio's wife Lucrezia dies, has been set by a stranger. Flames and fire seem to mysteriously develop more and more as water is being thrown on them. Piero is deeply struck by the tragedy and tormented by many questions. How is it possible that fire keeps developing from water? Who entered the burning room to rescue him when he was almost unconscious? What does the note that someone left in his pocket mean?

When Lavinia arrives in Rome from Borgo San Sepolcro – where Piero's family lives and has hosted her –, she finds the artist in a very difficult situation. But here she will grow both as a woman and an artist, meeting unexpected feminine solidarity, experiencing passion, and not hesitating to follow the man she loves in a dark and difficult story to discover the truth. Until a final confrontation they would have never expected to come to.

On this new episode, readers will meet again the genius of Piero della Francesca and the courage of Lavinia, in a new story full of historical, artistic and esoteric references. Written in a fast-paced rhythm, each piece of this mysterious puzzle will lead to the final surprise, revealing the complex structure of this narrative.

A particular attention to the psychology of the characters and the female universe of the time enrich the narrative, while the great art of the Italian Renaissance is always in the background, with descriptions and technical details that reveal the author's competence on the subject.

CHIARA MONTANI

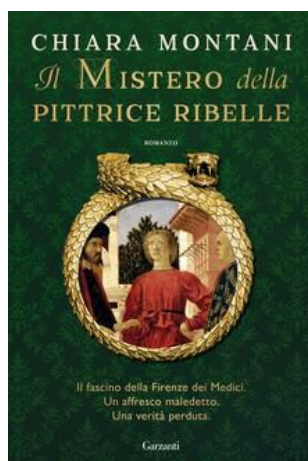
Il Mistero della Pittrice Ribelle (The Mystery of the Rebel Female Painter)

Garzanti, January 7th 2021 | Pages 321

HISTORICAL THRILLER

SOLD AT AUCTION ON A 4 BOOK DEAL!

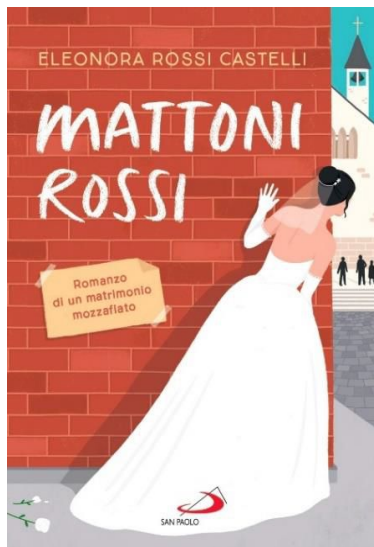
French rights: Fleuve



Rome, July 20th, 1458. While Piero della Francesca is working for his mentor and patron, the Cardinal Bessarione, he receives a disturbing message from Florence. The alarming tone of the letter and the medallion he finds in it convince him to leave immediately for Florence. From that moment on, the story is narrated by Lavinia, the young niece of Domenico Veneziano, fraternal friend of Piero, who is involved in the brutal murder of a banker, the same banker whose house Domenico has been painting a fresco for. A disturbing symbol has been drawn on the wall behind the dead body and it is not the first time they have seen it. The message is clear: the murder is strictly connected to both of them. Piero and Domenico are in serious danger, and an evil plan is hatched against them while a political conspiracy is stirring up the Republic of Florence. Piero and Domenico try to hide from Lavinia what is really happening, but she is determined to find out what is threatening her uncle and his best friend's lives. She realizes that the murder is somehow linked to the past and in particular to a cycle of frescoes painted by Domenico and Piero 16 years before, and these works hold tragic and painful memories. For an added twist to the story, Cosimo de' Medici is looking for a precious and rare manuscript, about which Piero knows more than he tells. Adventures, dangers, false leads, ambiguities and new deaths follow one another while the clues finally come together to give a name and a face to the dark manipulator.

Although the novel is a standalone, the author will write two more episodes with the same serial characters.

ROMANTIC COMEDY



Eleonora Rossi Castelli, born in 1989, works as journalist since 2013. Graduated in Ancient Literature, attended Journalism lessons at BBC and London School of Journalism and a course in screenwriting at Boston University.

Archibugi degli Ingegneri Estate.

Countdown for the most awaited wedding in years: thirty minutes to the event! Everything is ready, perfect as on a movie set. Siennese hills in the background and the old little church, guardian of love promises exchanged. But Ava, the bride, suddenly disappears.

In this breathtaking countdown, with minutes flowing relentlessly and guests asking a thousand questions, the hunt for the missing girl begins involving her closest friends. Among little goats, old noblewomen hunting for toyboys and Milanese professionals with hot iPhones, a never ending wait charged with increasing tension passes by.

While Emma, the bridesmaid, scours the places where the bride may have gone, while David entertains the guests with daring narratives and Viola tries to make the unsuspecting Don Carlo spend time with bizarre tricks, the characters of this choral comedy will find themselves in a suspended time that will lead them to deal with relationships never questioned or to resume the rows of old love.

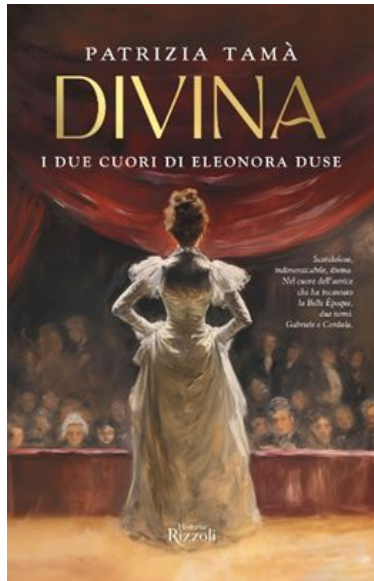
And eventually an awareness will emerge: compromise is sometimes the most romantic and revolutionary of choices.

PATRIZIA TAMÀ

Divina. I due cuori di Eleonora Duse (Divina. Eleonora Duse's two hearts)

Rizzoli, March 12, 2024 | Pages 368

HISTORICAL FICTIONALISED BIOGRAPHY



Patrizia Tamà, born in Modena, live and works in Milan. She is a Literature highschool teacher, a journalist and a writer of historical novels, such as *La quarta Cantica* (2010) e *La profezia di Michelangelo* (2012) with which she won literary prizes.

Ravenna train station, 1902. Among a multitude of fans and reporters, here comes the couple at the most talked-about couple in Europe. Actress Eleonora Duse and poet Gabriele D'Annunzio. They are in town to attend *Tristan and Isolde* by Richard Wagner. Nobody knows yet, but the troubled relationship between “The Divine” and “The Vate” is already falling apart. It is right in that moment that in Eleonora's life, the woman who can bewitch audience all over Europe that a woman is making her own way to her. In a white shirt and a small tie, hair pulled behind to look as if it were short, Cordula Poletti is a provocative vision. She is only 16 and has already gained a reputation as a “masculine young woman”. Suddenly the young poet give a bunch of roses to Duse, kneeling down in front of her. They will not meet any more for eight year but then a real passion will burst out between the two of them and will cause a big scandal. A kind of love much less talked about if compared to the very different one between Eleonora and Gabriele, which has been so sensual and unrelenting, glorified by a unique artistic bond, although spotted by betrayal and unfaithfulness.

Patrizia Tamà unveils the very heart of an extraordinary woman, the first real “star” and icon of the 20th century. She will tell us the two most overwhelming passions of her life, where love and hate are molded by art. In the background we will see Italy and Europe of the Belle Époque, from Venice to Berlin, that kind of eccentric artists and intellectuals rotating around The Divine. People trying to live and love beyond formality and social rules.

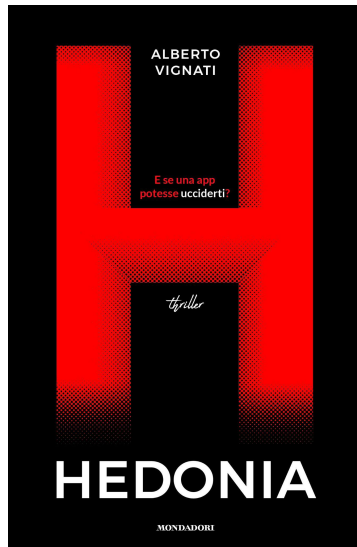
ALBERTO VIGNATI

Hedonia (Hedonia)

Mondadori, June 2024 | Pages 324

CONTEMPORARY FICTION

TV and Film rights optioned by IIF - Italian International Film



Alberto Vignati was born in Milano nel 1991, where he graduated in Italian Literature and got a Master's Degree in *Film and Fiction Script Writing*. He then moved to Los Angeles, where he got another Master in *Writing for Screen and Television* at the University of Southern California. In 2013, he won the Campiello Giovani Price with the short novel "*Girasole impazzito di Luce*". In 2018 he published his first novel. The YA story titled *Alle Periferie dell'Impero*. He now lives in Rome with his wife and their little baby boy, where he works as a film producer.

Nora is 28, she has a degree in Italian Literature and lives in Milan, where she has recently moved from Palermo looking for her own place in this world. While waiting for a job that would match her skills better, she has accepted to work as a substitute teacher in one of the most exclusive high schools in the city, not expecting to have to confront highly incomprehensible situations: weird graffiti in the school gym, a group of students completely split into two groups (almost as if ruled by a sect!) and one of the professor's cars suddenly on fire ... The colleague's name is Elio, he is 30 and, just like her, he has a temporary job and is one of the very few trying to connect with their teenage students in a positive way.

The story comes to a turning point when Cloe, a girl in the class, suddenly disappears. The whole school is deeply shocked and meanwhile Nora finds a mysterious old mobile phone in her locker. There is an even more mysterious app installed on it and a message that reads **SOMEONE PLEASE STOP US!**

What is this app? It is called **HEDONIA** and how can it be connected with the girl's sudden disappearance?

Nora begins to investigate and very soon she finds herself in a world which is completely alien to her. On one side she needs to stop the violence growing around her and on the other one, she needs to face her own past, which has been heavily devastated by acts of bullying.

In the end, risking her own safety, she will unveil prejudices and the lack of communication between generations but at the same time she will finally find her role in life.

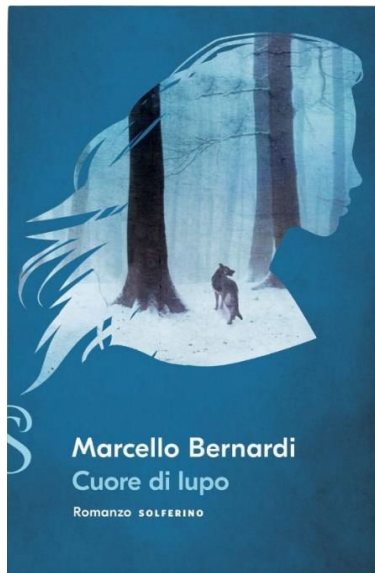
MARCELLO FRASNEDI-BERNARDI

Huan Cuore di lupo

Solferino, July 2022 | Pages 430

CROSSOVER

The Lion King and The Call of the Wild meet The Jungle Book in this charming novel on the first wolf that parted from his herd to start a completely new relationship with human beings. A very special story of love.



Marcello Bernardi, born in Bologna, has studied in Torino and lives in Rome. He attended a two-year master's degree in "Theory and Technique of Storytelling" at Scuola Holden and film direction. He works as cinema photographer, Video Assistant, Cameraman Assistant and Data-manager. He has written two feature films, works as copywriter, and as a screenwriter of children's cartoons. This is his first novel.

Huan, a little wolf, finds himself alone after a terrible fire that destroyed the wood where his den, mum and siblings were trying to escape the great peril but did not manage to. He has to go across the river if he wants to survive, but no wolf has ever been able to overcome the current, not even adults. But at the very last moment, an extraordinary creature, an animal he has never seen before, appears on the other bank and saves him.

Actually, this extraordinary creature is a little girl, that Huan will name Nuah whenever thinking of her. A strong and deep bond will immediately develop between the two of them. But, as it often happens, fate gets sideways, and nature restores the predetermined order of things. Men with men, wolves with wolves. Thus Huan will begin a long journey along with a new herd. A new world where he will grow and learn all the dynamics of hunt, territory, defence, chain of command, love.

But the wolfs' world is about to change. After thousands of years of uncontested control on the mountains of Central Europe, it's time to confront with the advent of humans, who also hunt and live in groups, and represent a serious danger for wolfs.

They are on the verge of a war: Huan and Nuah will have to make a crucial decision that could change their lives forever.

ROBERTO CARBONI **Il segreto dell'antiquario**

Newton Compton, February 3rd 2022 | Pages 320

PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER

He looks like an ordinary man, but his life hides monstrous secrets.



1980s. Elia Morosini Arconati is a former musician and a conductor who now lives in Bologna, due to a diagnosis of schizophrenia, and works in an antique shop.

But it's not all as it seems.

In fact, Elia is a serial killer. He is the mysterious “Monster of Bologna” – as everyone calls him –, who slowly creeps into the lives of his victims until killing them and returning to normal life. Before identifying a new victim and starting over.

But on his trail soon appear magistrates, private detectives, and especially a medium, Madame Thérèse...

ROBERTO CARBONI **La collina dei delitti** (Hill Murders)

Newton Compton Editori, February 11th 2021 | Pages 384 **PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER**
14.000 copies first print run!



On the hills of Montebudello, between Bologna and Modena, during constructions for a swimming pool, a corpse is found. It has been buried there for over ten years. It is a very cold evening, and there is the high risk of a snowstorm, all of which could turn into a serious problems for the Forensic Police Department.

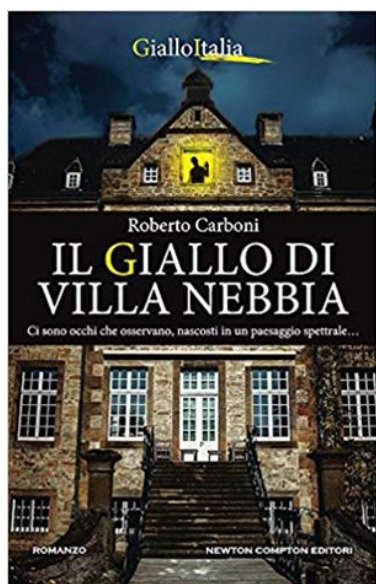
Journalists and meddlers crowd around the scene. Soon the entire country is following the macabre case on the media.

Architect Gabriele Moretti, 36 years old, has a nice and loving family, that he is really fond of, and a brilliant career. But, after watching the news of the dead body, his mood has suddenly changed. His nights are filling up with vivid nightmares, dark places, spectral presences and resuscitated bodies. Migraines, hallucinations and the feeling of being followed won't let him rest. In the elevator, he finds some anonymous messages, and even his wife and in-laws act in what seems a strange way.

What actually happened ten years ago? Gabriele does not know it yet, but the obscure truth will soon be revealed and more atrocious murders are about to be committed.

ROBERTO CARBONI **Il giallo di Villa Nebbia**

Newton Compton Editori, February 6, 2020 | Pagine 352 **PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER**



The novel is set at the end of the 70's, near Bologna. Piero Bianchi is a man with a troubled past. Almost an alcoholic, his wife is dead and his daughter does not want to speak to him anymore. The town where he has lived so far, is now blaming and isolating him. He has too many pending issues to confront, that's why he decides to move to Villa Nebbia, where he will work as the keeper of the property. An isolated mansion situated on the hill near Bologna, it was once a glorious mansion, now it has become a ruin. A young girl lives there with her aunt, who suffers from mental illness and spends her days lying catatonic in bed. She has passed 9 years of her life in a sanatorium, after having poisoned and hacked up her husband and his little girl.

From the first moment, Piero feels the presence of somebody who is watching him from the woods, and who sneaks into the outhouse where he lives at night. One night, he is assaulted without any specific reason. He will end up involved in a series of murders, which will bring him to unveil the mysteries and the secrets of the family. He will have to investigate if he wants to save his life and find his own deep self.

PINO CORRIAS

Hanno fermato il Capitano Ultimo! (They stopped Captain Ultimo!)

Chiarelettere, January 2023 | Pages 272

CONTEMPORARY NARRATIVE NON FICTION



The true story of the man who captured Totò Riina, fought 'ndrangheta, camorra and corruption to end up in the corner, isolated and attacked by the highest hierarchies and by politics. But he never gave up. Sergio De Caprio adds new chapters to his story as *Captain Ultimo*. And, in the light of recent sentences on the main cases he has followed, he reconsiders what he has lived from that January 15th, 1993, when he arrested Totò Riina, was condemned to death by Bernardo Provenzano and Leoluca Bagarella, and ended up as target of suspects in the Stato-Mafia law suit. After thirty years, Ultimo drives us back to his investigations with his men, Vichingo, Arciere, Omar, Petalo, Pirata, Alchimista, invisible detectives who have joined him in the never-ending stakeouts, the wiretappings, the sleepless nights to investigate tirelessly. Until he went too far and was stopped. Ultimo is so capable and quick as detective that cannot be controlled ... The idealist soldier who does not care for power. The hero without name that must be brought back to obedience.

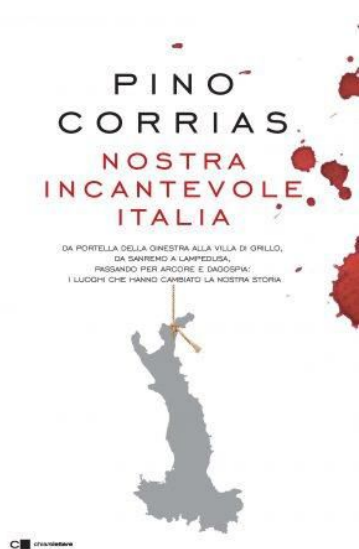
PINO CORRIAS

Nostra Incantevole Italia

Chiarelettere, January 2018 | Pages 372

NARRATIVE NON FICTION

Seventy years of the most recent Italian history to explore the deepest soul of the country through politics, chronicles and ideas.



Places that have molded the history of Italy and of its inhabitants, events that have shaped many a generation. Page after page, readers will discover a series of tragedies and comedies, mysteries and discoveries able to portrait what Italy was, what it is and what it will be. Seventy years of the most recent Italian history to explore the deepest soul of the country through politics, chronicles and ideas. A journey through rites and facts to shed light on a yet unknown side of Italian culture.

Berlusconi's massive villa in Arcore, the mansion of Gelli, master of the clandestine lodge P2 or the one of Grillo, now head of the populist Five Star Movement. And again, Ostia, where the great writer Pasolini had his last dinner; Capaci, where anti-mafia judge Falcone was brutally murdered together with his wife and bodyguards and the place where mafia boss Totò Riina was caught. Lampedusa, and the thousands of migrants landing there, as seen from the eyes of simple fishermen. Every place has a story to tell and each one of them deals with blood, feelings and roots, misery and culture.

Corrias describe places to portrait Mafia - from social bandit Giuliano (the May Day massacre of Portella della Ginestra in 1947) to Provenzano (and the massacre of Capaci in 1992) – Politics – the fascist terrorist attack at Piazza Fontana in Milan – and Chronicle (the murder of Cogne, the death of 6-years old Alfredino in the well of Vermicino, the mega-tsunami of Vajont, the earthquake that stroke L'Aquila, the Fiat working class at Lingotto-Turin and the Italian eternal ritual of Sanremo Music Festival).

A great journalistic talent and an enflaming passion for his country meet the elegant prose of Pino Corrias who is here able to offer an unknown geography of Italians and Italy. He can guide us through labyrinths made of stories and people on which history is still debating. This collection of places and events summarizes what Italy still needs to resolve and to question about.

PINO CORRIAS

Dormiremo da vecchi (We'll Sleep When We're Old)

Chiarelettere – Fiction series, October 1st 2015 | Pages 256

CONTEMPORARY FICTION

The film, titled DOLCE ROMA, inspired by the novel Dormiremo da vecchi was released in 250 theatres in Italy.

Movie rights SOLD to Casanova Multimedia

Spanish Rights: Salamandra

World English Rights: Atria (Simon & Schuster Group)

French Rights: Michel Lafon

Greek Rights: Kritiki

Dutch Rights: Xander

Danish Rights: People's Press

Bulgaria: Prozoretz Publishing House

Men and women willing to sell their souls and their heart to raise the attention of the media, to obtain a role in a movie or to be invited to the most fashionable parties. The world of money and cinema in a raw and compelling novel.



Rome, nowadays. Oscar Martello, President of the production company Incudine Film, is a self-made man: despite his humble origins, he managed to reach fame and success. He looks like an insomniac bandit, always running. He has an evil plan to save his last film, but he doesn't know how to save himself from Rome. Andrea Serrano, his best friend, is a scriptwriter who writes about love and murders. Jacaranda Rizzi is an actress, she has honey-colored eyes and an empty space to be filled, a secret that has been tormenting her for many years. She would like to rule her destiny and finally get her revenge. This is the new Roman "sweet life", more bitter than ever, a chronicle of a friendship poisoned by betrayal. A love that becomes cinema, of expensive solitudes without remedy, of characters with no escape, accompanied by the incessant flow of the Tiber.

"A merciless Italian-style comedy, on the footsteps of famous scriptwriters Age & Scarpelli, revisited with intelligence and sarcasm. The real face of the Great beauty." Goffredo Fofi

KIRKUS REVIEW – pre-publication review

A bullying, megalomaniac Italian film and TV mogul dreams up a multilayered scam to salvage a bad film, but this latest dirty trick could jeopardize his entire murky empire.

Drunk and doped up on cocaine, Oscar Martello is not in the mood to be nagged by his stunning Argentinian wife, Helga: "I have other things on my mind, you bitch. There's an actress who hates me and has gone missing, and I have no idea what the fuck she's up to. There's a piece-of-shit movie that I'm trying to save. There's a goddamned cop who's buzzing around me, I don't know if you've noticed?" And there, in a nutshell, is the plot—and tone—of Italian journalist Corrias' debut novel, an exuberantly vulgar takedown of Rome's media world as personified by the supremely coarse and corrupt figure of Martello. This lavish portrait of grotesque wealth, manipulation, and moral depravity centers on Martello's flimsy PR plot to inflate attention for No, I Won't Surrender! a film starring beautiful, bipolar, pill-popping Jacaranda Rizzi, by sending the actress off to Paris with Martello's best friend, raising rumors of romance and Mafia kidnapping. But then Jacaranda really does go missing, just as a policeman turns up to investigate Martello's long history of suspicious financial dealings. Readers less attracted to this harshly comic cast of sleazy characters and their predicaments may be more entertained by Corrias' descriptions of the lifestyle of the rich and borderline famous, studded with plenty of product placement: watches by Rolex; cars by Jaguar and Bentley. The author delivers his satire on Rome's glamorous but seedy entertainment industry with cheerful tastelessness and matching excess. Does Oscar survive the scandal? Don't expect a pianissimo final act.

Sensationalism and decadence are pushed to the hilt and then a bit further in this scorchingly cynical, one-note social sendup.

MARCELLO FOIS *La mia Babele* (My Babel)

Solferino, September 6, 2022 | Pages 144

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL NARRATIVE NON FICTION

NOMINEE FOR PREMIO STREGA 2023

A literary memoir.



Marcello Fois (Nuoro, Sardinia - 1960) is the author of several novels translated into many languages. Among others: *Sempre caro* (1998, Scerbanenco Prize), *Dura madre* (2001), *Memoria del vuoto* (2007, Super Grinzane Cavour Prize and Volponi Prize), *Stirpe* (2009) *Nel tempo di mezzo* (2012, shortlisted for the very prestigious Strega Prize and Campiello Prize), *Luce perfetta* (2015), *Quasi Grazia* (2016), *I Chironi* (2017 – including in one volume form: *Stirpe*, *Nel tempo di mezzo*, *Luce perfetta*), *Del Dirsi Addio* (2017), *Pietro e Paolo* (2020). He also write brilliant and witty non-fiction: *In Sardegna non c'è il mare* (Laterza, 2012), *Manuale di lettura creativa* (Einaudi 2016), *Renzo, Lucia e io* (Add, 2018) and this latest *La mia babele* (Solferino, 2022).

An exciting birth, a baptism in which he received three names, a childhood as an only child, a premature reading of *The Earl of Monte Cristo* without knowing what an abbot is...

The story of the protagonist and author of this book is marked by such a battle with language that he decided, after an unlucky period attending Medical School, to graduate in Italian Literature from the University of Bologna, which lead him to become a writer. And extensively translated abroad. From that moment on, he began his relationship with (his) translators, people who seems to have the precise task to misunderstand everything, but in the right way. In fact, translating means precisely to betray, bringing a text to life in another language and in another culture.

Life becomes literature, literature gives new strength to life. It happens in this literary memoir in which childhood memories and social history meet with self-analysis and adventures in Italy and abroad, together with thoughts about and through languages (not only European ones). Marcello Fois brings the reader to most important appointment, the one with the right word, able to illuminate a page and an entire life.

BARBARA FRALE

Maledizione Notre-Dame (The Curse of Notre Dame)

Newton Compton, Spring 2023| Pages 288

HISTORICAL FICTION

Foreign Rights sold in previous titles:

French rights: Le Cherche Midi

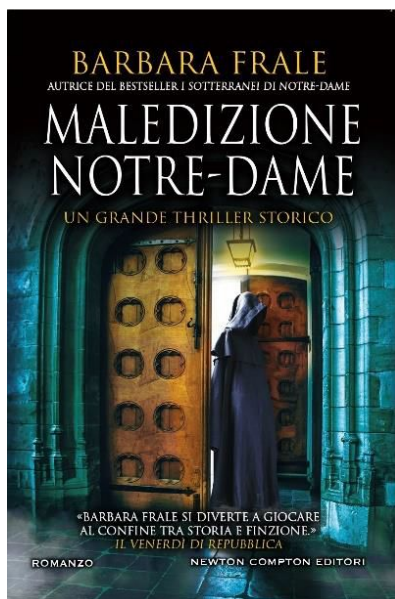
Spanish rights: Planeta Mexico

The third episode of the Gothic saga featuring King Philip the Fair and his wife, Joan of Spain.

Book No. 1: *I Sotterranei di Notre Dame*

Book No 2: *La torre maledetta dei Templari*

Prequel: *I labirinti di Notre Dame*



Anno Domini 1302. On the facade of Notre Dame there's a door that a brilliant blacksmith forged just in one night, with the help of the Devil. Nowadays, it is still called the Door of Hell and is said to hide a curse. Those who go through it during the day to go to church and to pray have nothing to fear. But they say that on black moon nights it is said that the damned soul of Biscornet returns to earth. To those who have the courage to cross the haunted door, he grants success in any impossible venture. Removing the looming disaster from France is precisely a desperate undertaking, but King Philip the Fair is willing to do anything to save his kingdom. Even passing through the Door of Hell. Maybe it's for this reason that the king, in disguise, wanders in front of Notre Dame in a dark night of full moon.

Meanwhile in Rome Dante Alighieri, who for months has been trying to understand how to defend the freedom of his beloved Florence, has a disturbing dream announcing his upcoming exile. He is wandering aimlessly in a dark and frightening forest, populated by beasts, until he arrives in front of a huge black door, on which terrible sentences are written, engraved in fire letters. It's the Door of Hell.

BARBARA FRALE
I labirinti di Notre-Dame

Newton Compton Editori, February 3, 2022 | Pages 352

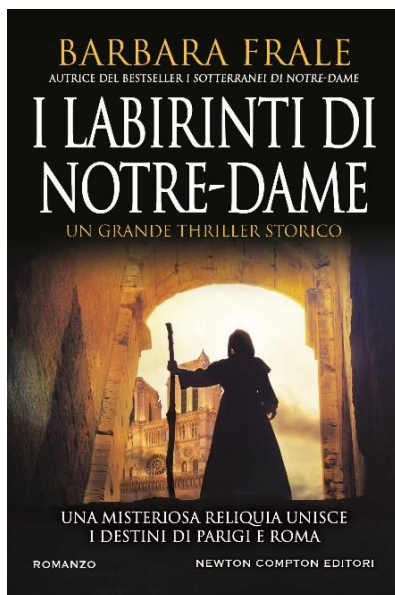
HISTORICAL FICTION

Other works sold in France, Serbia, World Spanish Rights, WEL

The long-awaited PREQUEL to the gothic saga featuring King Philip the Fair and his wife Joan of Spain.

Book N. 1 : *I Sotterranei di Notre Dame*

Book N. 2 : *La Torre maledetta dei Templari*



Anno Domini 1300. Father Baldrico de Courtenay, abbey of Saint-Germain monastery in Paris, is found dead with terrible mutilations and an incomprehensible message left on his corpse. Meanwhile, in Rome father Angelerio da Ferentino is stabbed by unknown killers, confused among the pilgrims arrived for the Jubilee, to prevent the delivery of a rare and priceless relic to Pope Bonifacio VIII. There must be a mysterious link between the death of the most powerful French abbey and the one of the humble Franciscan friar?

Simone Matifort, bishop of Paris, begins to investigate Baldrico's death, while Crescenzo Caetani, Bonifacio VIII's nephew, finds out that the stolen relic has ended up in the hands of Philip the Fair, king of France. Arnaldo da Villanova, the Pope's surgeon and an expert in exoteric science has no doubt. The relic is in fact a work of the devil. This discovery will unleash a bloody war between the two most powerful thrones in the world.

BARBARA FRALE
La Torre dei Templari

Newton Compton Editori, February 24, 2020 | Pages 320

HISTORICAL FICTION

French Rights: Le Cherche Midi

Other works sold in Serbia, World Spanish Rights, WEL



Paris, winter 1302. The Guidi brothers are amongst the most capable bankers who work for the King of France, Philip IV, known as Philip the Fair. While working for him, they found out an appalling truth: to prevent the risk of bankruptcy, the King decided to solve his debts by forging a new prestigious and precious golden coin, by doing so though he has tarnished him of a great guilt, that would eventually cost him the excommunication. What kind of crime could he have possibly done? The Knights Templar, a wealthy, powerful and mysterious order who carried out an important mission: to protect the Holy Land from Muslim control, could help the King by revealing to him the obscure secret of Abraxas, an enigmatic symbol impressed on a very ancient seal of the Order, known to be the source of their wealth. Although, they did not want to share with him their secret, even if the safety of France is at risk.

Philip IV is willing to attack Florence, and steal/rob its treasures. Fortunately, the Guidi's warn the Signoria, who will charge Dante Alighieri to convince pope Bonifacio VIII to put the city under his personal protection. The Pope knows who can stop the King of France by looting Florence: Arnaldo da Villanova known as the Catalano. The wise and ambiguous man, custodian of the mystical tradition of Orient, to whom the Pope let handle his health, has also served the French King in the past, and he knows all of his deep and unspeakable secrets. Only the Catalano could interpret the cryptic signs engraved on the most ancient seal of the Knights Templar, and by so saving France and maintaining the peace in Europe.

BARBARA FRALE

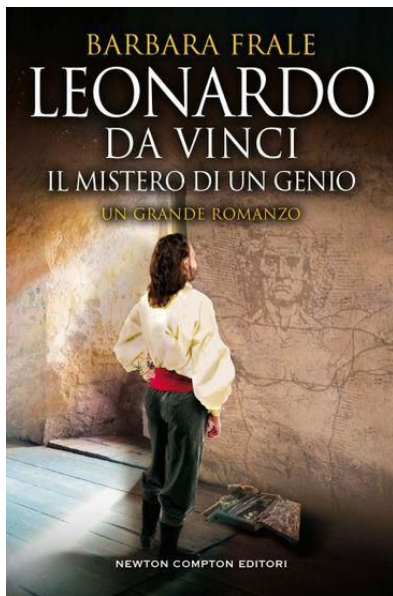
Leonardo Da Vinci. Il mistero di un genio

Newton Compton Editori, 15th March 2021 | Pages 320

HISTORICAL FICTION

Serbian Rights: Publikum Praktikum

Other works sold in France, World Spanish Rights, WEL



Florence, 1482. Young artist Leonardo Da Vinci is forced to leave Verrocchio's workshop because of a complaint of sodomy. His protector Lorenzo de' Medici suggests that he accept the opportunity to move to the court of Ludovico il Moro. Thus, Leonardo leaves for Milan with Lisandro Dovara, a nobleman sent by il Moro to recruit talented artists. But problems are round the corner. Leonardo is terribly attracted by this charming and ambiguous person, who seems to show both the qualities of a strong warrior and the refined moves of a courtesan ... He doesn't want to be accused once again for the fault he is trying to escape from. But his efforts are in vain. In fact, handsome Lisandro is attracted by Leonardo all the same. And this ambiguity is not his only dark side. The mysterious Lisandro also hides a very risky secret. He is seeking a very old manuscript preserving an ancient and dangerous knowledge that could potentially threaten both their lives.

As they travel through the most beautiful cities of the Renaissance they will be forced to fight to find the book coming from the past and to protect their love cursed by all laws.

About her previous novels:

«An academic who has devoted years of research and other works to this topic. (...) You can really appreciate her writings...» Umberto Eco

«A real page turner» Corrado Augias

«The reader's fantasy has already started running...» La Repubblica

BARBARA FRALE **Cospirazione Medici** **(The Medici Conspiracy)**

Newton Compton Editori, October 31, 2019 | Pages 294

HISTORICAL FICTION

World Spanish rights: Planeta Mexico

Other works sold in France, Serbia, WEL

After very successful novels and tv series about Lorenzo The Magnificent a novel centered on his brother Giuliano!



Florence, January 1478. The city of Florence is firmly ruled by Lorenzo de' Medici with his brother Giuliano's help, who is capable of reducing his brother's excesses and assisting him in his sensitive relationships with the other powerful lords in Italy. Thus, many of the notables in the Signoria would like Giuliano to replace his unstable and unpredictable brother. The ancient and glorious Pazzi's family above all. They are in the Pope's good graces, and they have a wide range of connections in the Roman Curia. The fortune of the Medici dynasty also depends on the Vatican politics, and it is Giuliano's responsibility to handle this precarious relationship with the Pope and his court. This is how it used to work until the day Giuliano met Semiramide Appiani, a young girl who looks like his old love Simonetta Vespucci, Botticelli's inspiration for his "Venus" and "The Spring". Giuliano went almost out of his mind when Simonetta died two years before. Semiramide is her cousin, which explains the incredible resemblance, and she is the daughter of the lord of Piombino. Seduced by her, Giuliano loses his rationality and he defies his brother, who would have liked Giuliano placed in the Roman Curia following a religious career, by proposing to her.

Lorenzo does not seem to pay attention to his brother's insistent requests until the day he finds out that Semiramide is engaged to Francesco de' Pazzi, who is going to inherit a huge fortune. Lorenzo, through a clearly illegal procedure, forces the Signoria to vote for a special law, which de facto leaves the Pazzis family without their estate and wealth. The patriarch Jacopo de' Pazzi decides to join the already existing group of Lorenzo's enemies and to orchestrate the conspiracy which should lead to the assassination of The Magnificent, and to establishing the more rational and cautious Giuliano as the leader in Florence. However, Francesco de' Pazzi cannot accept that decision, especially after finding out that Semiramide is pregnant with Giuliano.

Florence, April 26th, 1478: the Pope's nephew is celebrating the mass in the cathedral. The most important people and notables are there. The Medici's brothers are at the peak of their prestige. A gesture. A signal. A shout. And the streets of the city are tainted with blood...

DAVID HEWSON

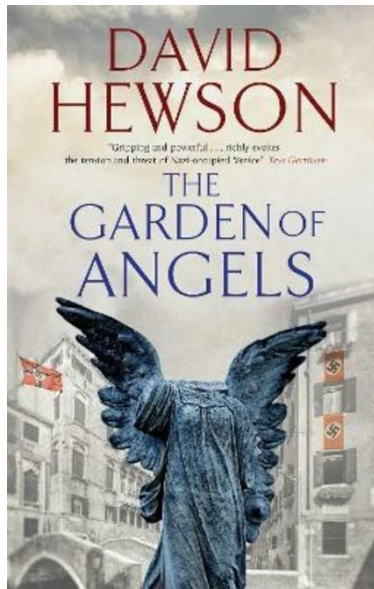
The Garden of Angels

Severn House | Pages 320

HISTORICAL FICTION

German Rights: Folio

Serbian Rights: Dereta



David Hewson is a former journalist with The Times, The Sunday Times and the Independent. He is the author of more than twenty-five novels, including his Rome-based Nico Costa series which has been published in fifteen languages, and his Amsterdam-based series featuring detective Pieter Vos. He has also written three acclaimed adaptations of the Danish TV series, *The Killing*. He lives near Canterbury in Kent.

The Palazzo Colombina is home to the Uccello family: three generations of men, trapped together in the dusty palace on Venice's Grand Canal. Awkward fifteen-year-old Nico. His distant, business-focused father. And his beloved grandfather, Paolo. Paolo is dying. But before he passes, he has secrets he's waited his whole life to share.

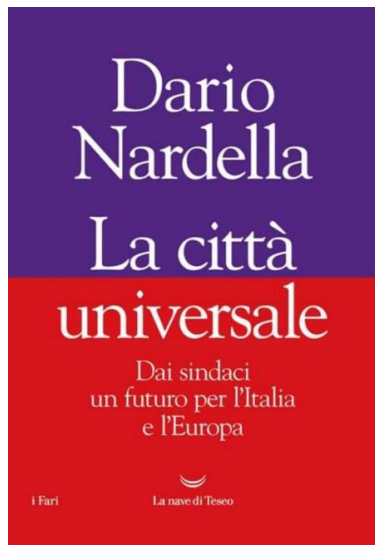
When a Jewish classmate is attacked by bullies, Nico just watches – earning him a week's suspension and a typed, yellowing manuscript from his frail Nonno Paolo. A history lesson, his grandfather says. A secret he must keep from his father. A tale of blood and madness...

Nico is transported back to the Venice of 1943, an occupied city seething under its Nazi overlords, and to the defining moment of his grandfather's life: when Paolo's support for a murdered Jewish woman brings him into the sights of the city's underground resistance. Hooked and unsettled, Nico can't stop reading – but he soon wonders if he never knew his beloved grandfather at all.

DARIO NARDELLA
La città universale
(The Universal City)

La nave di Teseo, November 8, 2022 | Pages 400

POLITICAL NON FICTION



Dario Nardella born and raised in Naples, after a Law degree and an important political experience he is elected Mayor of Florence in 2014. He is president of Eurocities, the most important organization of European mayors. This is his first book.

Nowadays we continue to talk about “nations”, not considering the increasing importance of “cities”, thinking the former are of primary importance with respect to the latter.

But what if cities were the real core of everything, the places where people are intellectually formed and moving their first steps into the world? Thanks to which it is possible to give a new meaning to human relations, and, most of all, in which to do politics?

And it is just to regain practicality and ideals to dull politics, perceived as old and almost useless, that Dario Nardella reiterates the importance of a new beginning from cities and their centrality. To build a doable political project that starts from the extraordinary life of European cities and their ability to give life to a new humanism, of which mayors of cities can be interpreters.

This is a visionary project that aims at crossing the Alps to address the whole of Europe, hoping to achieve lasting, non-elitist supranational solutions, in the spirit of acceptance and openness towards other cultures that might work as the driving force for a new European Nation, free and open to innovation and progress.

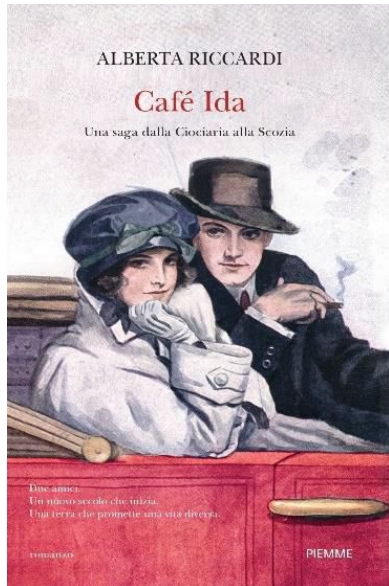
ALBERTA RICCARDI

Café Ida

Una saga dalla Ciociaria alla Scozia

Piemme, September 13, 2022 | Pages 446

FAMILY SAGA



Alberta Riccardi, with Italian and Scottish origins, lives in Roma. This is her first book.

1899 is a special year for the Montefosco brothers, just arrived in Glasgow, Scotland, from Ciociaria in Italy. It's the door to a new century and a new beginning. Especially for Nevio, the youngest in the family, who begins as hokey-pokey boy before becoming an established restaurant owner and car driver in the first car races.

In the same year Giovanni Datti di Lanza, Nevio's childhood friend, arrives in Greenock with his family to escape from a difficult situation in Ciociaria, despite his noble origins. Unlike his friend, he has to face severe poverty, and must work hard as a barber, taking comfort only in playing his violin.

His passion for music leads him to meet beautiful Gillian McDalamy, a very talented pianist who eventually he will marry after a series of difficult situations and mishaps.

Unfortunately no one can decide how life will go on, and Nevio and Giovanni will have to face difficulties and revenge that will lead them to wonder whether Scotland is still the right place to live. Will they both decide that their home land is where they can find peace?

Set between Ciociaria and Scotland at the beginning of 20th century, with Italian emigration as a background, in this family saga the stories of the protagonists alternate and intersect in a whirlwind of unions and divisions in the name of love, tenacity, loyalty, revenge, selfishness and ignorance, until the surprising end.

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