



il castoro

RIGHTS LIST 2019



NEW
TITLES



The *IF I WERE...* series

A new picture book series about jobs,
written by real professionals.

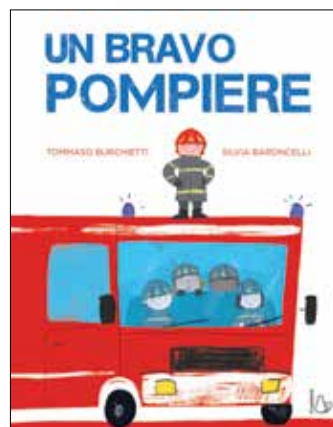
To encourage kids to dream... BIG!



A Good Fireman

by Tommaso Burchiotti
Illustrations by Silvia Baroncelli

Being a fireman isn't for everyone, but the little boy in this story knows what it takes to be a good one. He can get dressed in no time, he's not afraid of water, and there's nothing he doesn't know about fire engines! He always gives it his best shot... until it's time to go back home!



Age: 4+
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm
Picture book

Rights sold in Korea

A Good Veterinarian

by Donata Quagliotti
Illustrations by Silvia Baroncelli

What makes a good vet? The little girl in this story is caring and patient with every kind of animal, from the biggest to the smallest. She's fearless, prepared for emergencies, ready with hugs, and always gives it her all... until it's time for dinner!



Age: 4+
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm
Picture book

► *Upcoming titles*

A Good Chef
A Good Mayor

When You're a Baboon

by Loredana Baldinucci
Illustrations by Fabio Sardo

If you wake up one morning and discover you're a baboon, you can't just pretend nothing has happened. Getting dressed is going to be a little complicated, and so is having breakfast the way you're supposed to... You've got a long, hard day ahead of you!



► **Feeling grumpy? This book will help put things right!**

Age: 4+
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm
Picture book



HB Pencil

by Susanna Mattiangeli
Illustrations by Rita Petruccioli

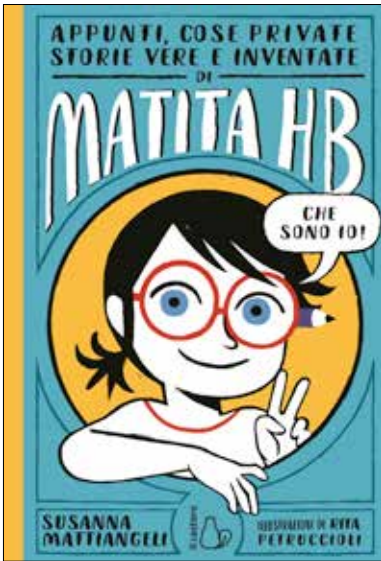
«I am HB Pencil, which in pencil language means Hard Black, in other words a bit hard and a bit black. My real name is different, but here in my notebook I'm Pencil. It's a nickname, a pen-name, like Lewis Carroll or Lady Gaga.»

In her hilarious notebook HB Pencil tells us about her life at school, her crush Jacob, her favorite writing spot (the fridge) and comic strip, Powercat. Susanna Mattiangeli, winner of the 2018 Italian Andersen Prize, uses a variety of genres to show her young readers how easy and marvelous it is to inhabit both real and imaginary words.



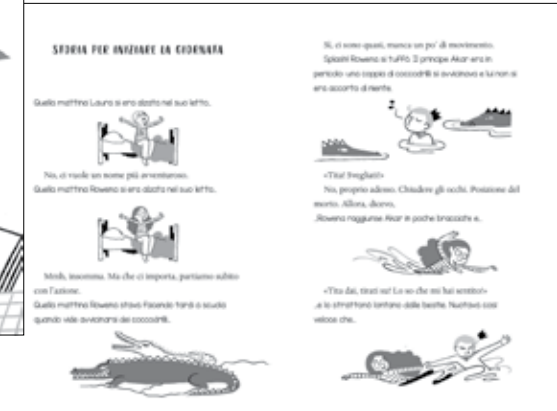
ANDERSEN

Author awarded with
Italian Andersen Prize



Age: 7+
Pages: 128 (b/w illustrations)
12.000 words
Format: 14x20,5 cm
Fiction

Rights sold in France, Spain
(Spanish & Catalan World), Russia,
Turkey, Georgia, Korea



Poop Express. Let's Get Even!

by Flavia Moretti
Illustrations by Desideria Guicciardini

Eleven-year-old Theodore has a single-minded goal: taking revenge for wrongs done. After the umpteenth such offence, in fact, he's had his fill and decides to set up the "Poop Express" service. If someone does you an injustice, you can have a smelly surprise sent straight to the culprit; and the dirtier the deed, the stinkier the punishment! But as the orders start flooding in, Theo realizes that it's not always so easy to tell who's right and who's wrong.



► Justice is sweet... and smelly too!

Age: 9+
Pages: 140 with b/w illustrations
Words: approx. 19.000
Format: 14x20,5 cm
Middlegrade Fiction

Dear Future Customer,

Have you ever suffered a terrible injustice that you never got to avenge? Just leave the address of the person you want to get even with in the box below, along with a personal message, and pick out your choice: Cookie, for small offences; Muffin, for normal offences; Avalache Cake, for large or offences. We'll wrap it up and send it to them ourselves, completely anonymous!

Trust Poop Express for all your vengeance needs: Let's get even!

Adorcable

by Fabrizio Silei
Illustrations by Fabrizio Di Baldo

There's big news in Orchidville: Mayor Orcnest and his gruesome wife, Orcaleah, are expecting a boy orclet, and the orc community has high expectations about how divinely hairy and smelly he'll be, as the son of the stinkiest, nastiest orc-dad of all. So the shock is palpable when the highly-respected, putrid couple instead produce an orc who isn't ugly: Adorcable is a blond, green-eyed wonder with the finest manners and the biggest smile anyone's ever seen. Orcnest's rank reputation is in danger!

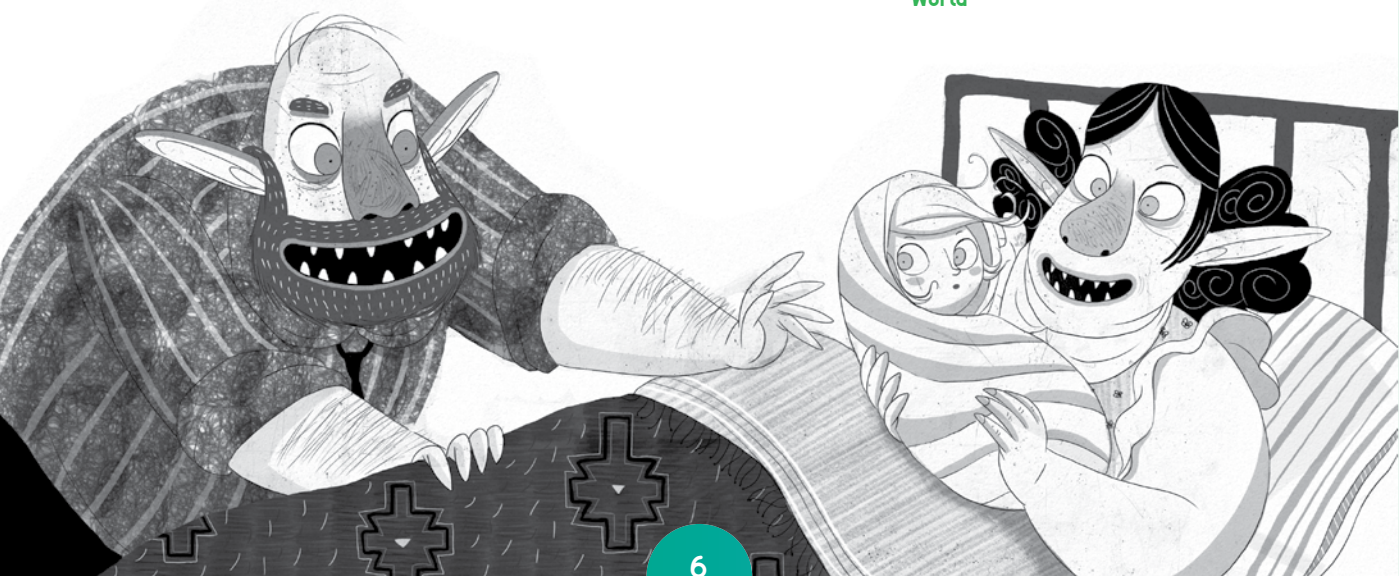
► **Strega-award finalist and Andersen-prized author**

► **The uniquely funny adventures of an orc who isn't ugly!**



Age: 8+
Pages: 144 (b/w illustrations)
15.000 words
Format: 14x20,5 cm
Fiction

Rights sold in Germany, Spanish World



Adorcable and the Kidnapping of Orchid

by Fabrizio Silei
Illustrations by Fabrizio Di Baldo

Adorcable the orc and his beautiful human wife Isabella live in the land of humans, where they become the proud parents of an exquisite girl orclet... who snores like a pig and burps like a sailor! Named after the city of orcs where her granddad Orcnest lives, baby Orchid may look like an innocent cherub, but she soon shows her true orc colors. At the age of six, she misses Orcnest so much that she runs away to find him – and is kidnapped, ending up in a reputedly haunted castle dungeon! Will the little rascal prove too much for the meek Orchidville Ghost?

► **An ode to diversity and inclusion**



Age: 8+
Pages: 144 (b/w illustrations)
15.000 words
Format: 14x20,5 cm
Fiction
Pub date: September 2019

Rights sold in Spanish World

Adorcable and the Last Orc

by Fabrizio Silei
Illustrations by Fabrizio Di Baldo

There's a new arrival in Adorcable's young family: Linus, a baby boy who's as sweet and virtuous – and as phenomenally orc-ugly! – as they come. Adorcable, Linus and big sister Orchid must now face a fearsome foe: Hannibal, the world's last, and scariest, baby-chomping orc, who's just escaped from a maximum security prison. This dangerous criminal has no qualms about carrying out one robbery after another, sowing panic with his foul-smelling farts. Only the Orchidville Ghost, helped by the kiss of a pure soul, will be able to save the day!

Age: 8+
Pages: 144 (b/w illustrations)
15.000 words
Format: 14x20,5 cm
Fiction
Pub date: Spring 2020

Rebecca and the Violin Spider

By Olivia Corio

Orlando D'Eath is not a lucky boy. He has an ill-omened name and is unlucky in life. In his new foster home, he soon realizes misfortune has followed him, as the parents, Violet and Gustav Villin, and their four children, are not as perfect as they seem. The only person who speaks to him at school is Rebecca McMuffle, a creepy girl who dresses like an old lady and has a Violin Spider as a pet. Rebecca lives deep in the forest, in a house she shares with her taxidermist mother and many stuffed animals. Intrigued and scared by her in equal measure, Orlando still feels safe with Rebecca - until he comes across a ginormous, eight-legged hairy secret in her attic.



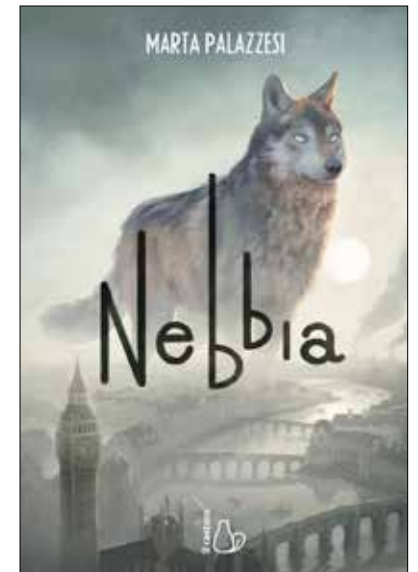
Age: 11+
Pages: approx. 240
Words: approx. 60.000
Format: 14x21 cm
Fiction

- ▶ A boy with a black cloud over him, four evil siblings, a creepy girl who dresses up like an old lady and a humongous spider.
- ▶ High-spirited, gothicky and Burtonesque

Mist

by Marta Palazzesi

London, 1880. Thirteen-year-old Clay is a mudlark, one of the countless boys who survive by scavenging along the banks of the Thames. One day, while trying to sell a set of Tarot cards, Clay stumbles upon the Smith & Sparrow's Extraordinary Circus, whose menagerie boasts "the last surviving wolf in the United Kingdom". Indeed, wolves have been extinct for over three centuries, so Clay can hardly believe his eyes when he meets up with the silver-coated, amber-eyed creature. Mist – that's the name the boy gives him – is a wild, fierce and indomitable beast. Clay will do everything in his power to free him from captivity.



Age: 10+
Pages: 160
Words: approx. 23.000
Format: 14x21 cm
Fiction

- ▶ The incredible friendship between a boy and a wolf
- ▶ A breathtaking adventure and powerful call for freedom

The Scent of the Sun

by Elisa Castiglioni

Azul, thirteen years old, is going through a rough period. Her parents are getting divorced and the harder she tries to get them back together, the worse things seem to get. She's also just been suspended from school and must now spend a week working in a thrift shop with only an old Japanese woman for company. Ms. Akeru will teach Azul the magical art of *kintsugi*, and what to do with the broken pieces life has dealt her.



Age: 11+
Pages: 240
Words: approx. 32.000
Format: 14x21 cm
Middlegrade Fiction



► Set in Puerto Rico, this story centers on the hard work of love and family.

Escapes

by Various Authors

All of us run away from the things we want to leave behind and towards those we'd like to do or become. Teenage readers challenged nine of Italy's best adult novelists to write short stories about escape for themselves and their peers. What is it that makes people want to run away: fear, love, hope or something else altogether?



Age: 12+
Pages: 176
Words: approx. 53.000
Format: 14x21 cm
YA Fiction

► Nine of Italy's greatest living adult novelists write a short story - for young adults

21 Days Until the End of the World

By Silvia Vecchini and Sualzo

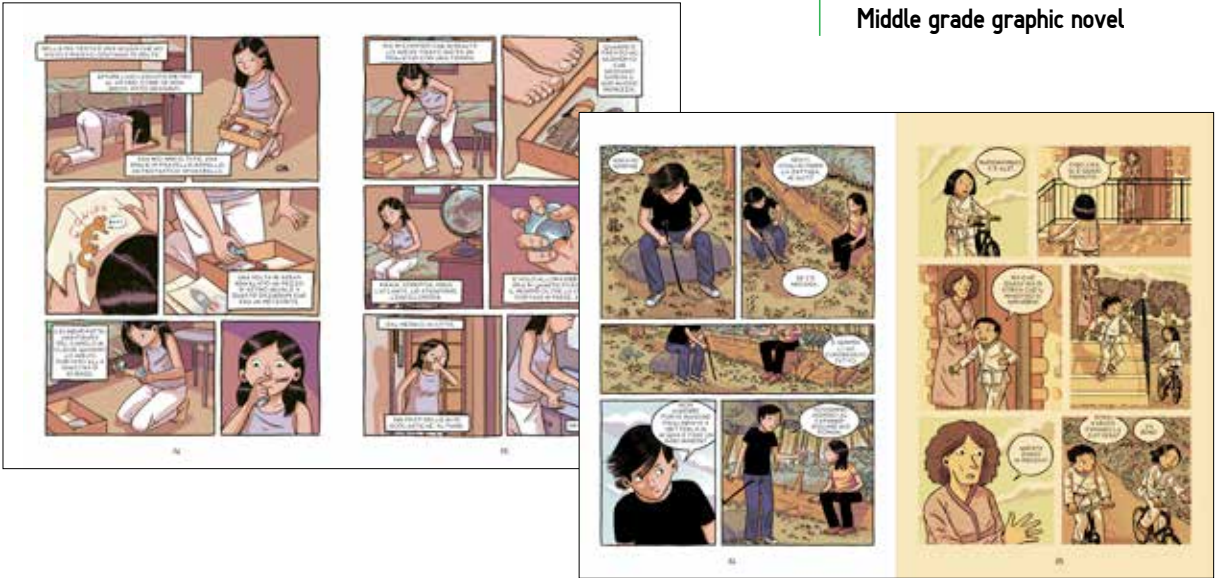
Halfway through the summer Lisa receives a long-awaited visit: her old friend Alex is back. They haven't seen each other for years, but they catch up quickly and decide to finish a raft they'd started building as children. Soon, however, Lisa realizes that the raft is no longer a game for Alex. He's changed and something is worrying him. What happened to his mother and why did they have to flee from their village years ago?

Lisa has just twenty-one days to learn the answers: twenty-one days until the night of the fireworks and an event that the village madman name calls "the end of the world".



Age: 10+
Pages: 208 (full colour)
Words: approx. 5.000
Format: 14x20,5 cm
Middle grade graphic novel

▶ Speaking the truth is the most powerful tool we have.



An Exceptional Snowfall

By Laura Tenorini and Mirka Ruggeri

It's wintertime, just a few days after Christmas. A severe snowstorm has trapped two neighboring and very different families in their respective mountain huts, first without electricity and then without water. As the blizzard worsens, they are forced to move in together and help each other in order to survive.

What would our lives be like without the comforts we are used to?



Age: 9+
Pages: 160
Words: approx. 4.000
Format: 14x20,5 cm
Middle grade graphic novel

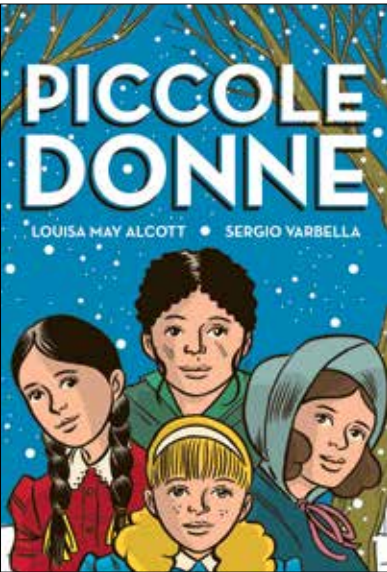


Little Women

By Louisa May Alcott and Sergio Varbella

Beautiful Meg, tomboy Jo, gentle Beth and artistic Amy. The four March sisters couldn't be more different. With their dad away at war and their mother working to support the family, the girls struggle with a variety of problems and turn to each other for support. Whether they're putting on a play, setting up a secret society, or celebrating Christmas, there's one thing they can't help wondering: will Dad come home safely?

► **A vibrant adaptation that stays true to the spirit of the popular classic**



Age: 9+
Pages: approx. 224
Words: approx. 6.000
Format: 14x20,5 cm
Middle grade graphic novel



To Post or Not To Post?

From an idea by Parole Ostili
By Federico Taddia and Carlotta Cubeddu
Illustrations by GUD

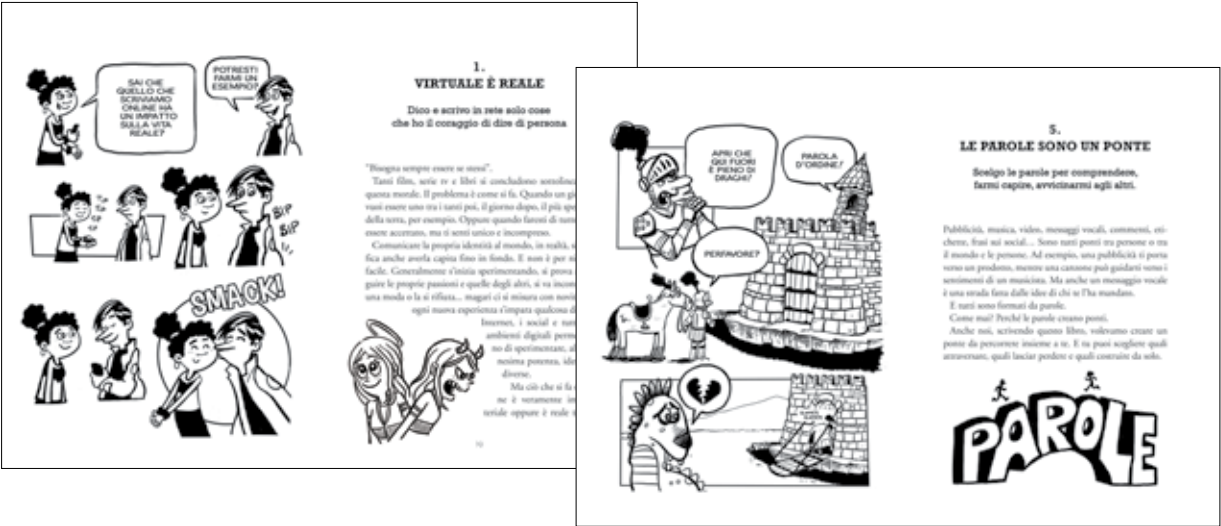
What's wrong about using a false identity online? What should I do if someone tells a lie about a friend of mine on the Internet? How can I recognize fake news?

This book, starting from the Manifesto of non-hostile communication, focuses on both online and offline communication, using concrete examples, quizzes, charts, cartoons and more to help young readers navigate their way through social media and understand how to use it in a positive way.

► **A social awareness project and how-to manual to help counter online hate speech.**



Age: 11+
Pages: 168 with b/w illustrations
Words: approx. 25.000
Format: 14x20,5 cm
Non-Fiction



The 50 Challenges Handbook to Become a Champion

By Pierdomenico Baccalario and Gianluca Vialli
Illustrations by AntonGionata Ferrari

What does it take to become a champion? Training, grit and the courage to go beyond your limits are some of the key ingredients, but not the only ones. Pierdomenico Baccalario and the world-famous footballer Gianluca Vialli share their secrets about how to excel both as an athlete and as a human being.



Age: 9+
Pages: 192 (2 colours)
Words: approx 20.000
Format: 14x20,5 cm
Non-fiction

▶ **Written by Pierdomenico Baccalario and Gianluca Vialli, world-famous footballer**

▶ **Bestselling series all over the world!**



The 50 Adventures Handbook (to Do Before You Turn 13)

by P. Baccalario and T. Percivale
Illustrations by A. Ferrari



Age: before 13!
Pages: 176 (2 colours)
Approx 15.000 words
Format: 14,2x19,3 cm
Non-fiction

Rights sold in Usa,
Germany, France, Spain
(Spanish and Catalan),
Portugal, Russia, Czech
Republic, The Netherlands,
Sweden, Hungary, Poland,
Romania, Bulgaria,
Lithuania, Turkey, Greece,
Albania, Georgia, Japan,
Korea, China

The 50 Secret Missions Handbook to Survive in the Grown-up World

by P. Baccalario and E. Jáuregui
Illustrations by A. Ferrari



Age: 9+
Pages: 192 (2 colours)
Approx 20.100 words
Format: 14,2x19,3 cm
Non-fiction

Rights sold in Spain
(Spanish and Catalan),
Japan, Poland, Serbia,
Korea, Turkey, Georgia,
China

The 50 Little Revolutions Handbook (to Change the World)

by P. Baccalario and F. Taddia
Illustrations by A. Ferrari



Age: 9+
Pages: 192 (2 colours)
Approx 20.100 words
Format: 14,2x19,3 cm
Non-fiction

Rights sold in France,
Germany, Russia, Turkey,
Georgia, Korea



Little Feelings

by Sonia MariaLuce Possentini

Little Feelings describes the wide range of moods – happy, laughing, angry or crying - that babies and young toddlers experience. The bright, true-to-life illustrations encourage children to “see and say” with simple text facilitating parents’ interaction and a mirror for little readers to peer into on the last page. It is the perfect first book of faces to share with babies, play peek-a-boo together, and giggle as they see themselves in the mirror. Marvel at the many faces babies can make!

With true to life illustrations
and peek-a-boo mirror at the end

YEAH!



OOOH!



HA HA!

YUK!

PEAK-A-BOO!



Age: 0-3
Pages: 22 (11 spreads)
Format: 15x15 cm
Board Book

Rights sold in Chile



ANDERSEN

Author awarded with
Italian Andersen
Prize 2017

I LIKE - I DON'T LIKE When I Play When I Eat When I Sleep

by Lodovica Cima
Illustrations by Sonia MariaLuce Possentini

I like lots of things, such as Daddy tickling me or playing with water. There are lots of things I don't like, such as snow globes or sitting quietly. What about you? What do you like and what do you not like? The I Like - I Don't Like books are based on a peer education approach and provide a non-judgemental space in which children can feel free to express their likes and dislikes. The vivid illustrations capture the many adorable expressions of children in everyday life.



Age: 0-3
Pages: 22 (11 spreads)
Format: 15x15 cm
Board Book

Rights sold in Chile



AND YOU, WHAT
DO YOU LIKE?



I LIKE MY LITTLE
BEDSIDE LAMP



THE BLUE GOOSE series

Various Authors
Created by Emanuela Bussolati



Everyone needs a good bedtime story... especially if it's short! OCA BLU is a fun collection of short and snappy stories to appeal to 3-year-olds. The simple, lively tales feature the characters that children love most. One story leads to another... and another. Be prepared to read "just one more!"

► Narrative board books with round corners and coloured edges



Age: 3+
Pages: 48
Format: 14x20 cm

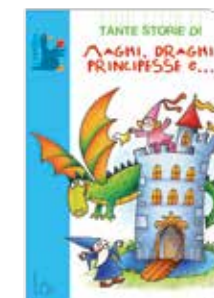
Rights sold in China, Turkey, Albania



Many Stories of
Tyrannosaurs and
Diplodocuses...



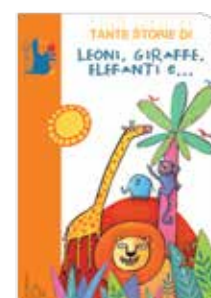
Many Stories of
Cats, Frogs and
Bunnies...



Many Stories of
Wizards, Princesses
and Dragons...



Many Stories of
Trolls, Ogres and
Yetis...



Many Stories of
Lions, Giraffes and
Elephants...



Many Stories of
Tractors, Cranes and
Bulldozers...



Many Stories of
Pirates, Mermaids
and Treasures...



Many Stories of
Stars, Owls and
Fireflies...

TANDEM Series ...two stories that travel together!

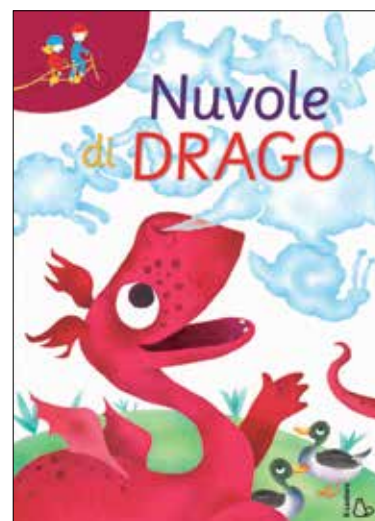
Various Authors
Created by Lodovica Cima

A brand-new series for early readers.

Each book features two stories that go hand in hand:

- **the first story** is short, reads quickly and is written in CAPITAL LETTERS
- **the second story** is longer, written in normal print and a slightly more challenging read.

An easy-to-approach and rewarding series: children will quickly notch up reading milestones!



Age: 5+
Pages: 48 (full colour)
Format: 14x20 cm

Rights sold in Turkey, Romania,
Greece

Written in Sassoon Primary, an
easy-to-read typeface designed
for and with children to improve
literacy by bridging the gap
between reading and handwriting.



Help! Grown-Ups! Dragon's Clouds Beach Friends The Scatty Fairy



Tales From Under The Bed Bumblebee Goes Adventuring In The Land Of Words Molly And Her Hat



Kitty Cat Molly and Auntie's Gifts Teo and Leo The School Garden



Eugene, You Genius! Blueberry Bear Dustin The Ghost



The Crocodile's Mistakes Diego's Glasses Granma's Necklace

PICTURE BOOKS



Someone Like Anthony

by Susanna Mattiangeli
Illustrations by Mariachiara Di Giorgio

Anthony may look like an ordinary child but there's a lot more to him than meets the eye. With his mum and dad, he's a son, for his aunt he's a nephew, with his cousins he's a cousin, then he's an attacker when football time comes around. On the bus, he's a passenger but also a monkey, hanging on the trees of a tropical forest. Anthony can be many things at the same time, but when he's with me, he is one alone: my best friend.



ANDERSEN

Author and illustrator awarded
with 2018 Italian Andersen Prize



Age: 4+
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm
Picture book

Rights sold in France, Spanish World,
Ukraine, Turkey, China, Arabic World



Have You Seen Anna?

by Susanna Mattiangeli
illustrations by Chiara Carrer

Anna and her mum go shopping at the market. In a split second, Anna gets lost among the stalls. Where is Anna? Everyone helps to look for her. They all want to know what she looks like. Well, Anna has a deep golden tan, especially in the summer, although she turns greenish when she's feeling ill. Anna is soft and fluffy, but she can also be rough and prickly. Sometimes she makes a lot of noise, at other times she's very quiet. Sometimes she needs lots of room, at others, a tiny box is enough. Anna is just like other girls, but nobody is like Anna. Perhaps she could even be you!



Age: 4
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm

Rights sold in Spain (Spanish),
Arabic, Korea, Turkey, China

How the Teacher Really Works

by Susanna Mattiangeli
Illustrations by Chiara Carrer

Teachers are funny sorts. They come in all shapes, sizes and colours. They can be dark, light, curly, smooth, polka-dotted, flowered, chequered, and in a million different patterns too. Inside every teacher, there are numbers, rivers, and mountains galore, not to mention the five senses and so much more. This book takes a delightful look at the miraculous beings that are teachers, celebrating one of the most magical encounters children have when they start school.



Age: 4
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm

Rights sold in France, Denmark,
Portugal, Slovenia, Greece, Turkey,
Latin America



Winner Gigante delle Langhe Award

She's Not a Duck!

by Fulvia degl'Innocenti
illustrations by Maria Girón



Stella is a duck. But for Liz, she is the most adorable dog ever. Liz takes Stella everywhere: to the park and even to nursery school, where Stella quietly waits inside Liz's school bag, hanging on the coat rack. Stella is well-behaved too; when she's on her leash, you can tell she's a special doggie. Stella and Liz are inseparable. Today, Dad has a present for Liz — a little ball of fur with four tiny paws and a minuscule pink tongue. It's a puppy! But... what about Stella? Not to worry, they'll make great playmates of course!



Age: 4+
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm

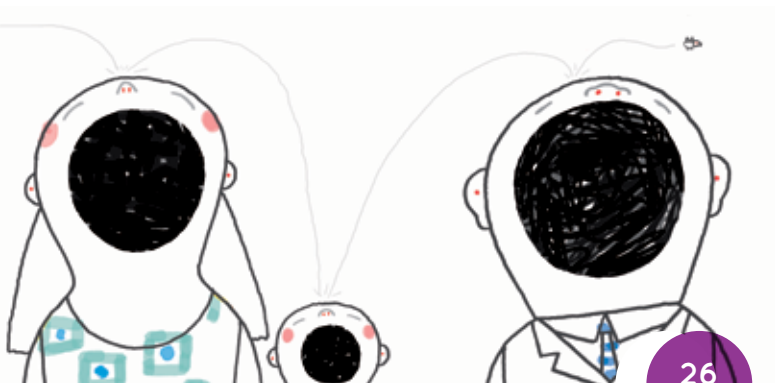
Rights sold in Spain (Spanish and Catalan), Russia, Ukraine, Turkey, China

► Friends come in all shapes and sizes!

Yawns

by Marco Viale

Have you ever tried to hold back a yawn? I bet it didn't work! It's like trying to stop rain from falling. Or convincing mum and dad that chocolate is much better for you than soup. When you feel a yawn coming, let it out. But be careful, you might fall asleep!



Age: 4
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm

Rights sold in France, South Africa, Turkey, Korea, China

Story of an Ink Drop and a Snowflake

by P. Baccalario and A. Gatti
Illustrations by S. Mulazzani

A snowflake and an ink drop – have you ever heard of two more unlikely friends? In this story, there's a big town. It's winter. There's a snowflake and it's about to fall from the sky. Where will he land? There's also an ink drop. In winter. In the same big town. Looking out at the world from inside her bottle. A sudden gush of wind knocks the bottle over and Ink Drop starts to fall. Down, down. Where will she land? Will Snowflake and Ink Drop ever meet? Two wonderful stories, two beautiful worlds, all in one exquisite book.

► An enchanting book with two stories that meet in the middle and stunning laser-cut pages



Age: 4+
Pages: 52
Format: 25x33 cm

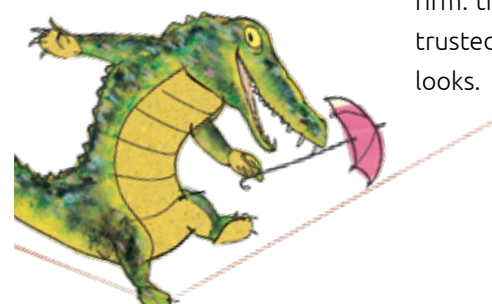
Rights sold in Usa, Germany, Spanish World, Luxembourg, China, Taiwan

The Kind Crocodile

by Lucia Panzieri
Illustrations by AntonGionata Ferrari

A gigantic crocodile sneaks out of the pages of a book every night and tiptoes around a quiet, happy home, making himself useful. He looks ferocious but is actually a kind crocodile with a big dream. He would love to become someone's pet, to live with a real family, just like a kitten or a goldfish, and be allowed to play with the children. Mum and Dad are frightened at first but the children are

firm: the kind crocodile is to be trusted, in spite of how scary he looks.



Age: 4+
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm

Rights sold in Usa, Argentina (Spanish World), Greece, Armenia, Arabic, Japan, Korea, China



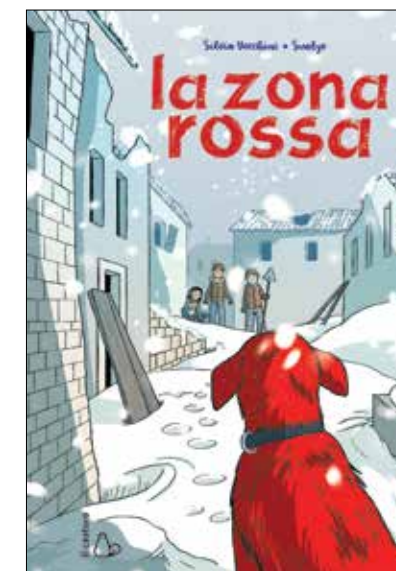
The Red Zone

by Silvia Vecchini and Sualzo

On a night like any other, in a town like any other, the ground shakes for the first of many times. Matteo, Giulia, Federico have a normal life, they have friends, family, go to school and swing between happy and sad like any children. Then, in a single night, everything changes. An earthquake hits and devastates their town, their security and their daily life. Can there be anything left after everything has gone? Matteo, Giulia, and Federico come to realise that life goes on, and that, even amid the rubble, the roots for a stronger friendship can be laid.

► **A vivid and poignant portrayal of what it's like to live through an earthquake**

► **Winner "Attilio Micheluzzi" Prize**



Age: 9+
Pages: 144 (full colour)
Words: approx. 4.000
Format: 14x20,5 cm
Middle grade graphic novel

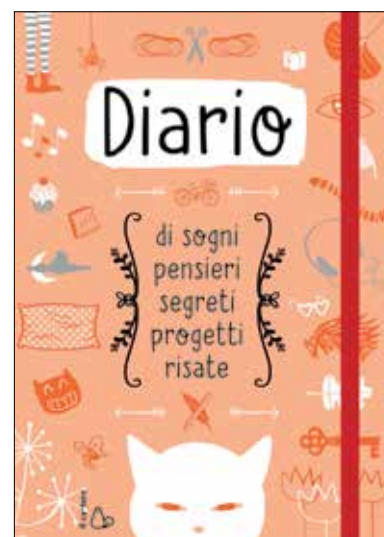
Rights sold in Usa, Latin America, Korea



My Diary of Dreams, Thoughts, Secrets, Plans and Giggles

by Cristina Petit
Illustrations by Francesco Fagnani

Children love having a special place to keep their thoughts and doodles, not to mention their secret dreams and favourite things. This diary will inspire them to look inside themselves, explore their inner world and get their creative juices going in drawing and colouring activities. It is packed full of perfect "thought-starters" such as "My best how to make friends after falling out strategies" and "My letter to the School Principal", and lots more checklists, fill-in-the-blanks, personality quizzes, doodles and sticker activities.



Age: 7+
Pages: 176 (2 colours)
Format: 16x22 cm

Rights sold in Usa, France

A fun "all about me journal" that children will treasure!



My Diary of Dreams, Thoughts, Secrets, Plans and Giggles (with My Friends)

by Cristina Petit
Illustrations by Francesco Fagnani

Do you and your friends like the same things? What are your best memories and your biggest dreams? Can you guess what your classmates want to be when they grow up? Will they stay in your town or go abroad? What would you like to say to your BFF but you've never had the nerve to? Fun lists, dates to remember, selfies to stick on and secrets to confess. This diary is for you and your friends: to share, to fill up together or to swap on the last day of school.



Age: 7+
Pages: 176 (2 colours)
Format: 16x22 cm



The Big Book of Magical Objects

by P. Baccalario and J. Olivieri
Illustrations by M. Somà

A weird wizard has collected the most famous magical things of all time in his mind-boggling mansion. Every room bristles with knowledge and magic: the flying carpet from Arabian Nights; the Narnia wardrobe; the Celtic sword of Durendal the Mighty; the Hogwarts sorting hat; Snow White's poisoned apple; Gilgamesh's flower of immortality; Mary Poppins' umbrella; and Pullman's Golden Compass.

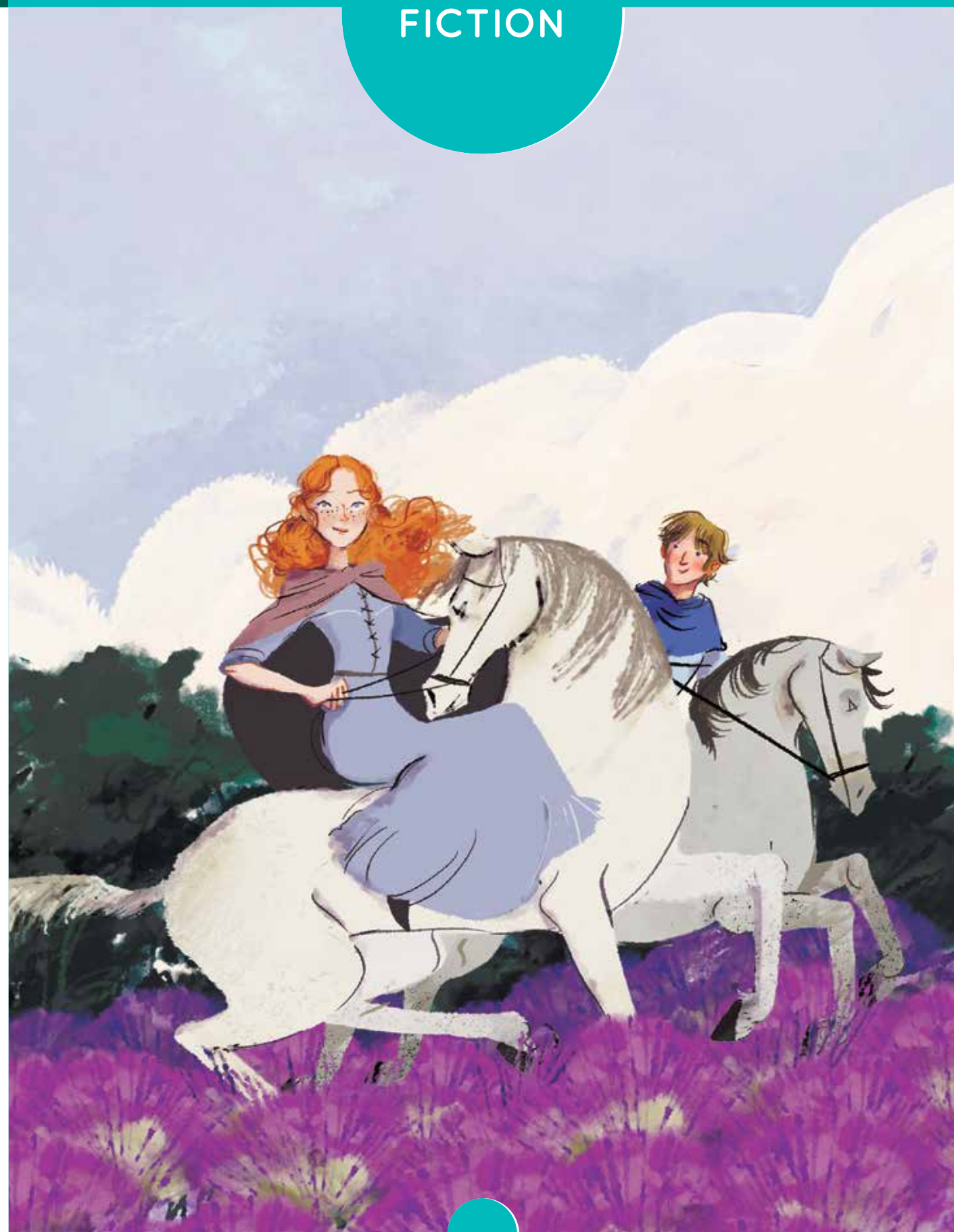
More than 200 items
from literature of all time

A book that's as big as a
house, fascinating to read,
a feast for the eyes!



Age: 10+
Pages: 128 with 16 flaps
Approx 36.600 words
Format: 23x30 cm
16 rooms, more than 200 objects

Rights sold in Russia, Armenia



The Boy in the Suitcase

by Zita Dazzi

Suitcases get switched at the train station. The first one is filled with lots of presents that a loving granddad is taking to his grandson. The second suitcase contains a boy; he has been travelling for days to escape his country and re-join his family. When granddad and grandson open the case, they see two big eyes staring back at them. What will they do with the boy in the suitcase?

► **Based on actual events, a story where two cultures meet like old friends**

► **This book is endorsed by:**



Age: 9+
Pages: 144
23.400 words
Format: 14x20,5 cm
Middle grade fiction



IT'S PITCH BLACK IN HERE, but I'm used to it now.

When they put me in the suitcase they told me to sleep and not to think about it.

They told me not to cry, that it would be over soon.

I trust them.

I'm small and thin, I can fold myself up like a shirt.

The Jasmine Gang

by Zita Dazzi

Illustrations by Francesca Quatraro

Orso, Pizza, Becco and Bikini are nicknames of the children in the Jasmine Gang. They get caught up in an hilarious adventure in their courtyard when a fat, bossy man tries to get rid of the children who play there. There's a mystery about him and the children decide to solve it. Their methods are unusual to say the least: smelly nappies and other unlikely weapons. The kids expose a clandestine market of exotic animals and are rewarded with an incredible twist at the end of the story.



► **A great adventure about a gang of gutsy children!**



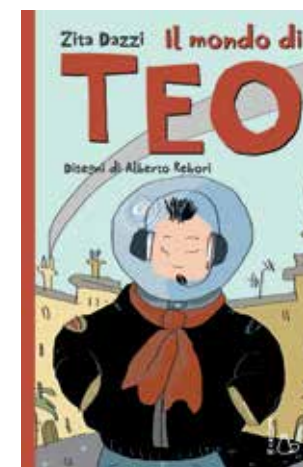
Age: 8+
Pages: 112 (b/w illustrations)
14.800 words
Format: 14x20,5 cm

My Name Is Theo

by Zita Dazzi

Illustrations by Alberto Rebori

Middle school can be tough, especially if you're the quickest when it comes to outsmarting the teacher but the laziest when it comes to passing a test. Like Theo for example. But not like Cleo, Theo's sister. She's fashionable and has boys falling at her feet. Theo doesn't understand what on earth she can be doing in the bathroom for hours or how many times she changes her clothes before she leaves the house. There's only football, and maybe TV series, in Theo's world, until he meets Cleo's new friend, Alina, with her magnificent mane of red hair.



Age: 10+
Pages: 192 (b/w illustrations)
35.600 words
Format: 14x20,5 cm

Rights sold in Lithuania

► **Love, school and summer holidays: the laugh-out-loud escapades of a 14-year-old**

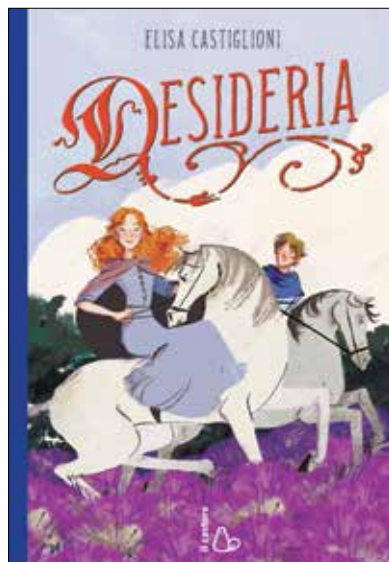
Désirée

by Elisa Castiglioni

Illustrations by Ilaria Urbinati



This exciting adventure for middle-graders is set in Provence in the year 1000AD. The protagonist, Désirée, is the daughter of the powerful feudal lord of the county but was raised with freedoms not normally accorded to young girls. She can write, count, is not afraid to speak her mind and is secretly learning how to ride a horse and fight with the sword. When her father departs on an important mission, she must deal with a surge in religious intolerance against Muslims, peasant revolts against taxes imposed by a disloyal governor, and a mysterious preacher enlisting children to fight in the Holy War. She also encounters the handsome Philippe, commissioned to paint her portrait for her husband-to-be. The shadows of the recent past are a difficult burden but Désirée proves she is pure of heart and has the right qualities to become a true warrior princess.



Age: 9+
Pages: 240 (b/w illustrations)
45.000 words
Format: 14x20,5 cm



The Stars Shine on Rome

by Elisa Castiglioni

Illustrations by Ilaria Urbinati

Rome, First Century AD. Iris lives with her younger sister and her mother Tecla. Her father is away fighting for the empire and Iris spends her days either at school or in the bakery her mum opened when she was set free from slavery. When Tecla's former master shows up one day claiming Tecla has no right to be free and wants her back, Iris' quiet world falls apart. Her mother, a gentle, mild-mannered woman, decides to rely on the Roman justice system, but Iris rails against her mother's submissiveness: something has to be done! Iris sets off on an adventure across the Roman Empire with the help of her friend Aureliano. Will she be able to protect her family's freedom?



Age: 10+
Pages: 192 (b/w illustrations)
31.800 words
Format: 14x20,5 cm

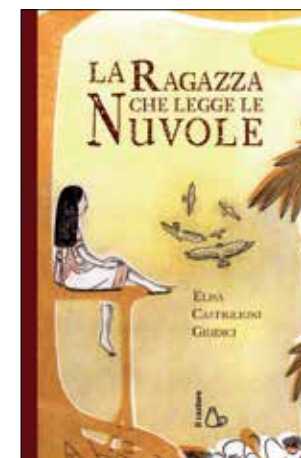
► **An adventurous coming-of-age story set against the wonderful backdrop of Ancient Rome**

Reading the Clouds

by Elisa Castiglioni

Illustrations by Lucia Sforza

Leela loves her country, India; but when her grandmother dies everything changes. Her family decides to move to New England where new challenges await Leela: a new school, new friends, a new love and also bullying. To deal with it all, Leela remembers how her grandmother taught her that reading the clouds would give her the strength and freedom of a hawk. But the American sky is bleak and doesn't speak to her. Or perhaps she's not trying hard enough? Leela and her new friends learn how to read the American clouds and realize that they can tackle anything if they stick together.



Age: 10+
Pages: 176 (b/w illustrations)
21.000 words
Format: 14x20,5 cm

Rights sold in China

► **Winner 34th CentoYouth Literature Award**

The Hip-Hop King

by Gianfranco Liori
Illustrations by Margherita Allegri

Mario is twelve and an avid fan of hip-hop star PaniK. When he goes on a surprise family holiday to a luxury resort, he's presented with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to actually meet PaniK who's staying there too! But Mario's crazy plan to befriend the rapper is a bit risky. Can kidnapping the global celebrity really be the best way to start a friendship?



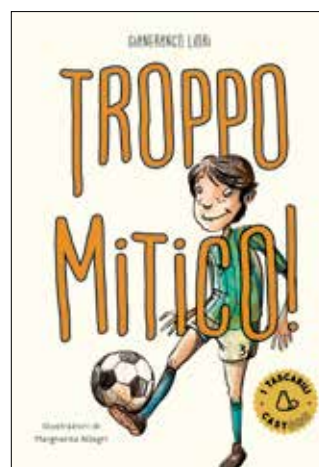
Age: 8+
Pages: 192 (b/w illustrations)
29.250 words
Format: 14x20,5 cm

► Pump-up the volume and be ready to laugh!

What a Legend!

by Gianfranco Liori
Illustrations by Margherita Allegri

Every child dreams of becoming a famous football player... but not Salvatore! He's 11 and would rather read books and study biology than kick a ball around a pitch. Unfortunately, his ambitious father has other ideas. From one day to the next, Salvatore finds himself caught up in a whirlwind of gruelling training sessions with the world's bossiest coach and a squad of new teammates. Salvatore survives a series of madcap adventures and emerges unscathed the other side, having found himself while managing to solve a mystery involving the championship's top goal scorer.



Age: 8+
Pages: 160 (b/w illustrations)
27.400 words
Format: 14x20,5 cm

Rights sold in Serbia,
Poland, Turkey, China

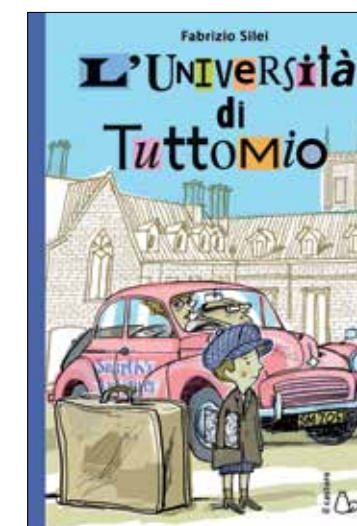
► Winner Sceglilibro Award
Winner Premio Castello Award

The All-Mine Academy

by Fabrizio Silei
Illustrations by Adriano Gon

Life is easy for the Smirths. They're greedy and disgustingly rich and there's nothing they don't have: everything except a son, or rather, someone to leave their fortune to. When they reluctantly decide to have one, he's not quite what they expected. First is a sweet, altruistic child whose generosity knows no bounds! Mr and Mrs Smirth send their son to the All-Mine Academy, hoping he'll learn how to behave properly; but instead of developing a lust for money, his goodness turns everything topsy-turvy.

► Finalist Strega Award 2018 (section 6+)
Shorlisted In Other Words Booktrust 2018



Age: 10+
Pages: 256 (b/w illustrations)
54.000 words
Format: 14x20,5 cm

Rights sold in Spain (Spanish and Catalan), Poland, Romania, Japan, Greece, Turkey, China

Granddad Trouble

by Fabrizio Silei
Illustrations by Adriano Gon

Martha and her family lead a quiet, uneventful life, until Grandad Constant arrives. Martha has never met him before and is completely taken aback: he's a daredevil granddad who has travelled the world and has endless stories to tell. In a matter of weeks, Grandad wreaks havoc in family life, lurching from one hair-raising catastrophe to another and leaving a trail of destruction in his wake. Every page will have readers laughing out loud as Fabrizio Silei describes with comedic flair how new family bonds are eventually forged... be ready to be surprised!



Age: 10+
Pages: 128 (b/w illustrations)
28.250 words
Format: 14x20,5 cm

Rights sold in Germany, Greece, Serbia, China

The Finish Line

by Paola Zannoner

Leo is a fifteen-year-old boy and talented football player. He is very full of himself until a motorbike accident confines him to a wheelchair. It all gets too much for Leo, he can't bear it and starts to lash out at family and friends, pushing them all away.

The only one resilient enough to get through the wall he builds around himself is Viola, a lively and vivacious fellow athlete and hurdler.

They strike up a friendship and, with Viola's help, Leo eventually makes a successful return to school and even takes up basketball. He starts building himself a new life, sure in his mind what he wants from it.



Age: 12+
Pages: 160
34.500 words
Format: 14x21 cm

Rights sold in Turkey,
Hungary, China

► **There's no hurdle we can't get over with the help of a friend**

► **Awarded with Bancarellino Prize 2004**

TWENTY TO SEVEN

Leo wakes up shortly before the alarm starts working, at twenty to seven. The hand glides confident towards the mobile phone, the screen indicates twenty-one to seven, and he's already seated on the bed. With a quick gesture he pushes aside the duvet. It's cold, it's dark, but he springs to his feet and goes towards the bathroom without even turning the lights on. In a hurry he puts on his tracksuit and running shoes.

Zorro in the Snow

by Paola Zannoner

Luca leads a pretty dull life: college, friends, and dreary afternoons. Out snowboarding one day, he nearly dies in an avalanche but is saved by Bruno, a volunteer with the mountain rescue service, and Zorro, his rescue dog. Surviving the ordeal convinces Luca that he, too, should join the mountain rescue squad and have his own dog. Mary is a veterinary student volunteering at the local kennels where six adorable mongrel puppies have just arrived in need of a home. Luca and Mary meet there, and through their love for dogs, discover what it means to love and take care of somebody, no matter how great or small.

► **Finalist 1st Strega Award 2016 (section 11+)**
Finalist Bancarellino Award 2015
Winner Castello di Sanguinetto Award 2016
Winner Asti d'Appello Junior 2017



Age: 12+
Pages: 192
42.600 words
Format: 14x21 cm

Rights sold in Russia, Bulgaria,
Turkey, China

Six Dancers for a Dad

by Paola Zannoner

Bianca is nearly thirteen and dreams of becoming a ballerina. She wants to attend the ballet academy in the city but her family won't hear of it. Bianca goes ahead, nevertheless, and applies for an audition. To her great surprise, she gets in, but can she go by herself? Since her mum can't give up her job, dad must. Father and daughter move to the city where Dad rents a small flat. Bianca's dream has come true! But nothing is as easy as it seems. Bianca has to cope with ballet training, friendship and first love. Dad's life is also very busy: Bianca's new friends take up residence in her house and Dad has to cook, shop, and tidy up after them all, as well as going to his new teaching job! A crisp, coming-of-age story with a father and daughter duo as its protagonists.



Age: 11+
Pages: 208
48.300 words
Format: 14x21 cm

Rights sold in Russia, Turkey

Code.Name.Zero

by Luigi Ballerini

A teenage boy is running on the treadmill when there's a sudden blackout. The gym is plunged into darkness and he has to grope around for the exit. Trying one door after another, he eventually finds the way out. Once outside, he understands nothing of what he finds there. Until then, the sole purpose of his life, shut off from reality in a high-tech world, had been to become a war drone pilot. He has no friends, no school, no family and has been lulled to sleep since childhood by a metallic voice named MADAR. His life has been one of secrecy and isolation, hidden away from any external contact. Out in the outside world, he has little hope of survival. A young couple finds him by the roadside and pick him up. They have no idea what they are getting themselves into...



Age: 13+
Pages: 192
43.000 words
Format: 14x21 cm

Rights sold in France,
Mexico and Central
America, The Netherlands,
Flemish, Poland, Lithuania,
Slovenia, Malta

► **Winner Bancarellino Award 2016
(best YA fiction)**

ZERO

IT'S TOO DARK TO BE DARK.

I don't even know how long I've been here.

Immobile.

Seems like eternity.

I don't like it: this is really too dark, it's never happened before. Sometimes the light might cut out for a few minutes, but the blue lights on the ceiling cornice would go on immediately to show the outlines of things. The ones that stay on when I sleep.

(Im)Perfects

by Luigi Ballerini

It's Year 72 since the Foundation of the System. Genetic engineering has been harnessed to produce a two-class society: a race of synthesized Perfects identified by a bar code on their necks, and an underclass of Imperfects born by natural birth to serve the Perfects.

Two Perfect boys and a Perfect girl are chosen to compete in a reality talent show broadcast across the system. To win the public vote means to become a champion of the System and be venerated like a god. But all is not what it seems, both in the reality show and behind the perfect exteriors of the contestants. They harbour deep secrets and a growing sense of rebellion.

► **Are you perfect?
Are you the best?
Are you happy?**



Age: 13+
Pages: 304
67.200 words
Format: 14x21 cm

Rights sold in The Netherlands

Come Back to Me

by Luigi Ballerini

Would you erase your past for guaranteed happiness in the future?

Pauline, Matthew, Albert and Lenore are ordinary teenagers, juggling ordinary problems of family, friendship and love. They have something in common – mysteriously, all their mothers died when they were young, and they remember very little about it. The mystery becomes real when each of them is visited by a ghostly woman in red, claiming to be their mother. After these visits, their lives take positive turns – glowing report cards at school, a date with the most popular girl in the class, promotion to the first team. Such good fortunes come at a price, though. The ghostly women in red want their lives and their children back, and the teenagers are faced with an impossible choice.



Age: 13+
Pages: approx. 288
Words: approx. 61.000
Format: 14x21 cm
YA Fiction



Happy Cattle Thief

by Gek Tessaro

Age: 4 +
Pages: 80
Format: 20,5x18,5 cm
Picture book



I Am a Horse

by Bernard Friot
Illustrations by Gek Tessaro

Age: 4+
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm
Picture book

Rights sold in France, Spain (Spanish and Catalan),
Armenia, China

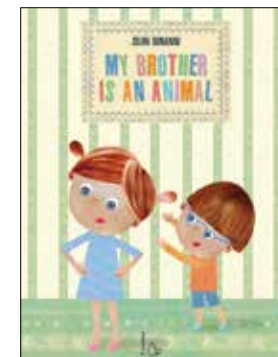


My Brother Is an Animal!

by Silvia Bonanni

Age: 3+
Pages: 48, with 9 flaps
Format: 23x30 cm
Picture book

Rights sold in Korea, China



The Secret Path

by Pinin Carpi

Age: 9 to 99
Pages: 48
Format: 26x34 cm
Picture book

Rights sold in China



A Little Darkness

by Cristina Petit

Age: 4+
 Pages: 32
 Format: 26x21 cm
 Picture book
 Rights sold in Spain (Spanish and Catalan),
 Turkey, Korea



Look and Find Art

by Roberto Morgese
 Illustrations by Barbara Bongini

Age: 4+
 Pages: 40
 Format: 28x35,5 cm
 Picture book
 Rights sold in China



Achoo!

by Silvia Serreli
 Illustrations by Andrea Castellani

Age: 4+
 Pages: 32
 Format: 15x20 cm
 Early Readers
 Rights sold in Turkey,
 Malta, Korea, China



Dancing in the Moonlight

by Andrea Valente

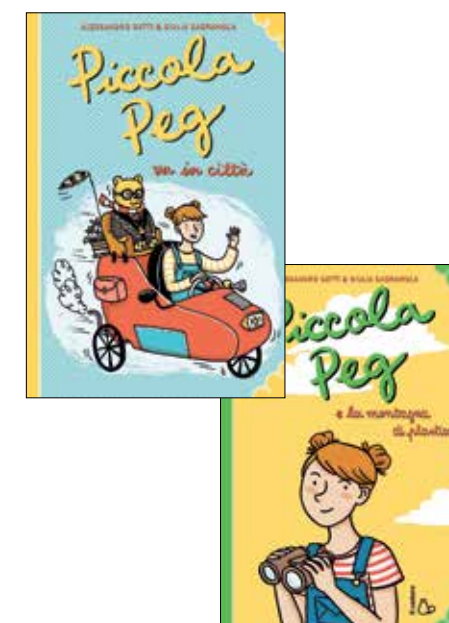
Age: 9+
 Pages: 128 (b/w illustrations)
 12.750 words
 Format: 14x20,5 cm
 Middle grade fiction



Little Peg Goes to Town Little Peg and the Plastic Mountain

by Alessandro Gatti
 Illustrations by Giulia Sagramola

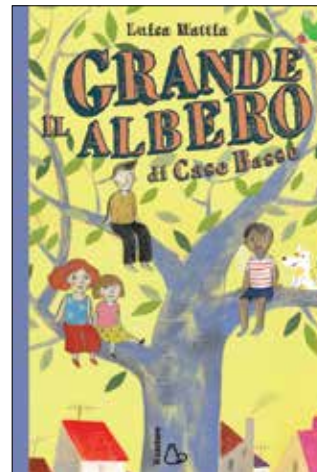
Age: 6+
 Pages: 128 (2 colours)
 Approx 15.500 words
 Format: 14x20,5 cm
 Middle grade fiction
 Rights sold in Turkey, Korea



The Big Tree

by Luisa Mattia
Illustrations by
Barbara Nascimbeni

Age: 8+
Pages: 176 (b/w illustrations)
18.850 words
Format: 14x20,5 cm
Middle grade Fiction
Rights sold in Turkey, Korea



The Cinemà Family

by Andrea Valente
Illustrations by Julia Binfield

Age: 10+
Pages: 160 (b/w illustrations)
27.850 words
Format: 14x20,5 cm
Middle grade Fiction
Rights sold in Turkey



Ciro's Secret

by Antonio Ferrara
Illustrations by Lorenzo Manià

Age: 12+
Pages: 168
24.800 words
Format: 14x21 cm
YA Fiction



This Is Me

by L. Cima and A. Strada

Age: 11+
Pages: 144
26.400 words
Format: 14x21 cm
YA Fiction
Rights sold in Turkey, Taiwan



Less than a Day

by A. Ferrara and G. Sgardoli

Age: 12+
Pages: 144
25.500 words
Format: 14x21 cm
YA Fiction



Bella and Gustavo

by Zita Dazzi

Age: 12+
Pages: 208
33.000 words
Format: 14x21 cm
YA Fiction



The First Time Ever

Various Authors

Age: 12+
 Pages: 240
 Approx 44.000 words
 Format: 14x21 cm
 YA Fiction
 Rights sold in Slovenia



Say It Loud!

Various Authors

Age: 12+
 Pages: 240
 Approx 49.250 words
 Format: 14x21 cm
 YA Fiction
 Rights sold in Hungary



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Editrice Il Castoro S.r.l.
viale Andrea Doria 7, 20124 Milano - Italy

Rights enquiries:
Andreina Speciale - speciale@castoro-on-line.it

info@castoro-on-line.it - www.castoro-on-line.it
tel. +39 02 29513529 fax. +39 02 29529896

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