

The background image is a composite scene from the movie 'The Wild Horses'. It depicts a herd of wild horses galloping across a grassy field. In the upper right, a large, close-up view of a dinosaur's head is shown against a blue sky with white clouds. In the middle ground, three children are perched on a rocky cliffside, looking towards the horses. The overall atmosphere is one of a wild, prehistoric world.

**Il Castoro
RIGHTS LIST
2020**

Hello from **Il Castoro!**

We are thrilled to present our Fall 2020 catalogue of **brand-new highlights** for all ages, ranging from fantastically funny **picture books** to wonderfully witty new series, gripping **middle-grade fiction** to hilarious **graphic novels**, and hard-hitting, intense **YA fiction**.

Let's dive in together now. We hope you'll enjoy your journey!



ABOUT US



Founded in 1993.

The **first independent** children's book **publisher** in Italy.

Shortlisted for **the 2019 BOP** – the Bologna Prize for the Best Children's Publishers of the Year.

Partners: Edizioni Sonda and Tunué.

Our books have been translated into **38 languages**.

Owner of La Libreria dei Ragazzi, the oldest children's bookshop in Italy.

We are proud to publish some of the most outstanding Italian and international authors, including Pierdomenico Baccalario, Luigi Ballerini, Susanna Mattiangeli, Paola Zannoner, Fabrizio Silei, Silvia Vecchini and Sualzo, Jeff Kinney, Chris Riddell, Raina Telgemeier, Mo Willems, Kate DiCamillo, Lois Lowry, Susin Nielsen and Bernard Friot.





PICTURE BOOKS



MR. CLUMP AND MR. NEAT

by Fabrizio Silei
illustrations by AntonGionata Ferrari

Mr. Clump is messy and creative, with a huge mop of hair; Mr. Neat is meticulous, elegant, and a lover of rules. They have *nothing* in common, other than the fact that they both teach in the same school. But while each has his own style, both give the best of themselves to their young students. When Ms. Moonglow, a lovely new teacher, joins the team, Clump and Neat start to wonder: which of them is “better”?

There are plenty of good ways to teach. And to learn!



Hardcover
Pages: 48
Format: 23x30 cm
Age: 5+
MARCH 2021



AMELIA

by **Cristina Bellemo**
illustrations by **Simona Mulazzani**

Amelia lives a quiet life, grazing in a sunlit meadow with her sheep pals. Early one evening she looks up and sees something shining high up in the sky: it's the first star to come out, and what a beauty it is! To keep gazing at it, Amelia will spend a magic-filled night outdoors, making lots of discoveries and even changing deep within herself – but *how*, exactly?

**Never be afraid of the unknown!
With a little curiosity and
courage, we can all discover
the magic around us.**



Hardcover
Pages: 40
Format: 23x30 cm
Age: 4+



THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GARDEN

by Luca Tortolini
illustrations by Beatrice Cerocchi

In the gloomiest city imaginable, a notice appears: an award is up for grabs, to be given to the person who can create the most beautiful garden. The news spreads fast and everyone wants to be the winner: some decorate balconies, others create forests on skyscrapers, others yet turn parking lots and streets into pretty green parks. But who's actually going to win, and which garden is *truly* the most beautiful?

We are all winners when a city turns green!



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

Rights sold in Turkey, Slovenia, Korea



WANNA PLAY WITH US?

by Fulvia Degl'Innocenti
illustrations by Aurora Cacciapuoti

As they play in the schoolyard, some kids hear a desperate wail: ROARRR! Who can it be? An alien? A wild monster? Maybe a *giant*? No: it's Dino, a huge baby dinosaur who's lost his mom. The children do everything they can to comfort him, but then their teacher calls them in for snack time. Good thing they can play with Dino again tomorrow...

There's nothing nicer than kids who share their toys with new friends!

Hardcover
Pages: 32
Format: 20.5x27 cm
Age: 4+



WHEN YOU'RE A BABOON

by Loredana Balducci
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!

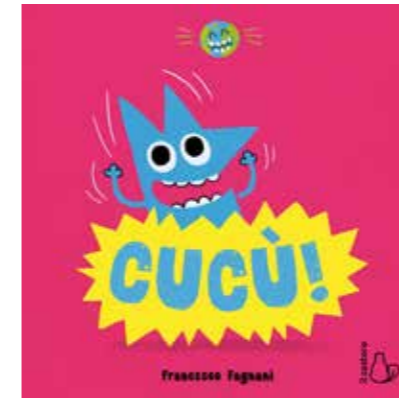
Hardcover
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm
Age: 4+



Rights sold in The Netherlands, Portugal, China, Korea



**BOARD
BOOKS**



PEEKABOO and TICKLE-TICKLE

by Francesco Fagnani

PEEKABOO

Should we try to surprise Wolfie? YES!
How do you play peekaboo if you're a
Brazilian parrot?
And what if you're a Lebanese camel?
All ready? PEEKABOO!
With a mirror at the back to play
peekaboo with your baby.

TICKLE-TICKLE

Wolfie is feeling sad. Should we try to
make him laugh? YES!
How do you tickle your little ones if
you're a Norwegian bear?
And what if you're a French hen?
Let's find out together!
Ready? TICKLE TICKLE!
Let's go tickle all around the world!

**Cheerful, colorful and full of surprises:
two board books for playing and laughing
with children in every language!**



Board books
Pages: 22
Format: 15x15 cm
Age: 0-3
JUNE 2021



MY FOUR-LEGGED BOOKS

by Raffaella Bolaffio

Poldo the dog loves to play outdoors. Olivia the cat *must* have her favorite toy. Hugo the pig is crazy about strawberries. Mila the sheep is very sleepy... A fold-out board book series for the little ones. Compact and sturdy, with four delightful baby animals, four stories to read as well as four cute characters to play with.

CLICK
HERE
TO WATCH
ME



A unique series – with muzzles, tails and four legs!



Accordion board books
Pages: 4
Format: 11x16.5 cm (closed)
76.5x16.5 cm (open)
Age: 0-3





FIRST
MAN ON
THE
MOON

JUDO CLUB



OCTOPUS

PIZZA

SERIES

SCIENCE

THE ADVENTURES OF NAZAR MALIK

by Olivia Corio
illustrations by Claudia Petrazzi

Nazar and his family are special: not only are they tattooed, but their tattoos actually come alive! Nazar's is named Otto, and he's a bungling octopus who loves eating and gobbles down anything he can get his tentacles on. Every time Otto jumps off Nazar's back, he gets his silly distracted self into some kind of mess! This time he might even end up in the pot of a wicked chef... Nazar will have to move fast if he wants to save him! Luckily, the rest of his crazy family – and their tattoos – will also come to the rescue!

Original, fun, tongue-in-cheek... irresistible!

COMING SOON:

- **Nazar Malik and the Gang of Water Rats**
- **Nazar Malik and the Science Museum**



Hardcover
Pages: 120, b/w illustrations
Format: 14x20.5 cm
Age: 8+
MARCH 2021

Rights sold in Korea



OLLIE AND STORM

by Antonio Ferrara
illustrations by Agnese Innocente

Ollie has lots of friends, and judo lessons, and school... but something's missing: a fur-friend. So when he comes across a lively black puppy, it's love at first sight! The doggie follows him home and Ollie wonders what to call him. Easy! There's only one right name for him, given all the mischief he gets up to – Storm! The two become an inseparable pair, always ready for new adventures together, both big and small.



A witty new series for early readers!

Hardcover
Pages: 136, b/w illustrations
Format: 14x20.5 cm
Age: 7+
JANUARY 2021



HB PENCIL

by Susanna Mattiangeli
illustrations by Rita Petruccioli

In her hilarious notebooks HB Pencil tells us about her life at school, her crush on Jacob, her adventures (both in daydreams and real life), and her passion for Powercat, her favorite comic strip. 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 worlds. An unforgettable journey into the life of an unaffected and genial young girl.

Hardcover
Pages: 136, b/w illustrations
Format: 14x20.5 cm
Age: 7+

Rights sold in France, Spanish (World), Catalan, Russia, Turkey, Korea, Poland, Slovenia, Croatia



ADORCABLE

by Fabrizio Silei
illustrations by Fabrizio Di Baldo

There's big news in Orchidville: Mayor Orcnest and his wife, Orcaleah, are expecting an 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 orclet is born: Adorcable is a blond, green-eyed wonder with the finest manners and the biggest smile! It isn't easy to be so different from other orcs, and Adorcable ends up living in the world of humans. But when he too becomes a father, he's confronted with the same fate: what do you do with a baby girl who's a beauty on the outside but a super-orc on the inside, or a first son who's the most hideous orc ever?



Hardcover
Pages: 136, b/w illustrations
Format: 14x20.5 cm
Age: 8+

An ode to diversity and inclusion!

Rights sold in Germany, Spanish (World), Turkey, Malta



FICTION



MUSTANG

by Marta Palazzesi

Texas, 1850. Robb is 13 and furious that his parents have dumped him at his uncle's cotton plantation in order to go off and seek their fortunes. He decides to prove to everyone what he's made of: he'll catch a mustang, one of the untameable wild horses that are creating panic on nearby plantations. Only with the help of Ako, a spirited Native American girl, and Aimery, a plantation slave and his childhood friend, will Robb be able to find his future.

A breathtaking adventure story about a boy's search for freedom, set against the backdrop of slave plantations and conflict between Native Americans and white settlers.

Hardcover with jacket
Pages: 176
Format: 14x21 cm
Age: 10+

BY THE SAME AUTHOR

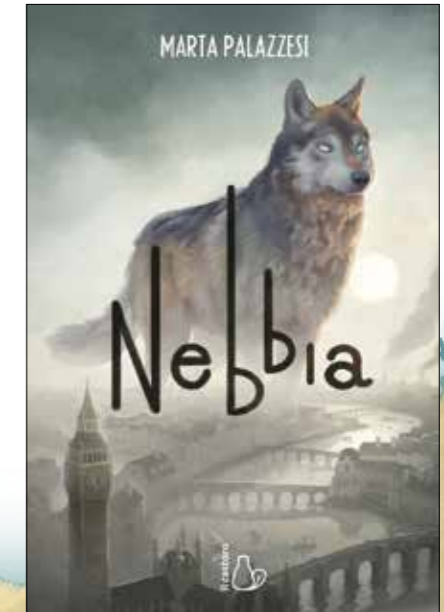
Winner of the 2020
Strega Award (6+ category)



Mist

Age: 10+ | Pages: 160 | 14x21 cm

Rights sold in Russia, Ukraine,
Macedonia, Denmark





MYRA KNOWS EVERYTHING

by Luigi Ballerini

Not sure what to put on? What movie to watch? What girl or boy is right for you? Alex and Vera don't have to bother looking for the answers themselves. Myra, the operating system integrated into the lives of every citizen, knows you and what's best for you; all you have to do is ask her. But Vera realizes that something's not quite right. How can you live under constant surveillance, your whole life shared on social media? What are you giving up in exchange? Freedom is an adventure, full of challenges, discoveries and emotions, but also dangers – especially if your enemies are much closer than you think.

The right clothes. The right friends. The right life. All the “likes” you could possibly want. But what are you giving up in return? How free are we, really, in our hyperconnected world?

Hardcover with jacket
Pages: 296
Format: 14x21 cm
Age: 13+
MAY 2020

Rights sold in Slovenia



BY THE SAME AUTHOR



Code.Name. Zero

Age: 13+ | Pages: 192 | 14x21 cm

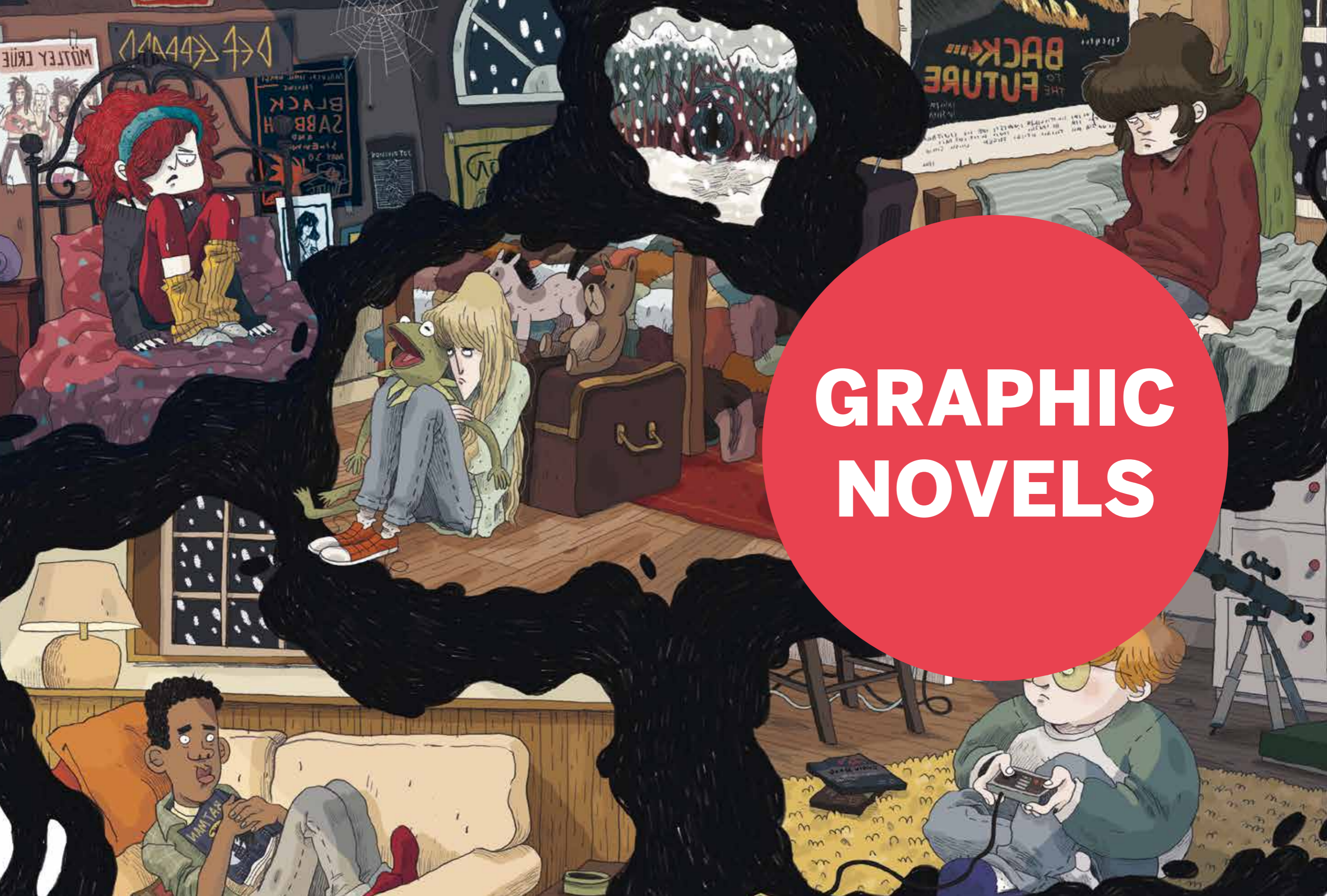
Rights sold in France, Spanish (Mexico and Central America), The Netherlands, Flemish, Poland, Lithuania, Slovenia, Malta, Denmark



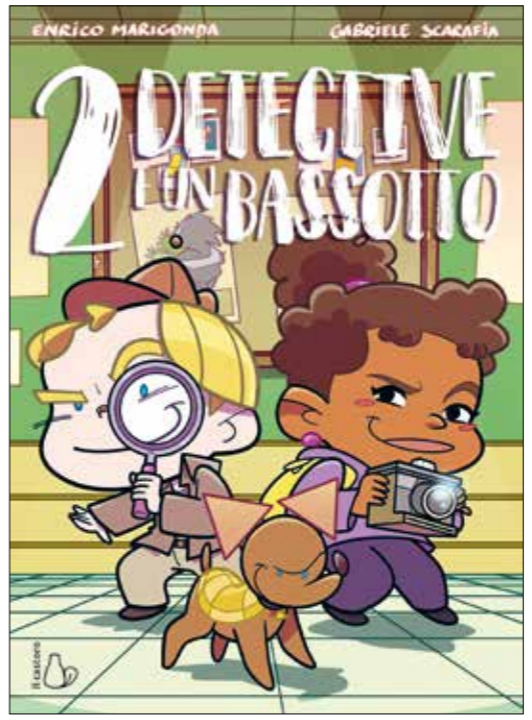
(Im)Perfects

Age: 13+ | Pages: 304 | 14x21 cm

Rights sold in The Netherlands and Lithuania



GRAPHIC NOVELS



TWO DETECTIVES AND A DACHSHUND

by Enrico Marigonda
illustrations by Gabriele Scarafia

With the gift of the gab and a passion for detective novels, Arthur has but one goal: to solve crimes and bring the guilty to justice, along with his loyal dachshund, Poirot. So when a newcomer, Agatha, arrives he can't believe his luck: not only is she just as enthusiastic about mysteries as he is, she's also the daughter of Vasquez, the world-famous detective! The two quickly become inseparable... just in time! Arthur's best friend, has been falsely accused of committing a "stinky" crime. Arthur, Agatha and Poirot rush to his aid, ready to unearth the truth using just the right blend of smarts, bravery and... (a dog's!) sense of smell!

**A pair of budding detectives.
An amazing sniffer of a dachshund.
A case to solve and a friend to help.**



Flexicover
Pages: 160
Format: 14x20.5 cm
Age: 7+
FEBRUARY 2021



CLARA AND THE SHADOWS

by Andrea Fontana
illustrations by Claudia Petrazzi

1988, United States. A young girl, Clara, and her group of nerdy friends get bullied at her new school. But when the school bullies begin to go missing one after another and the police suspect it may be the work of a serial killer, Clara and her pals discover an even more frightening truth. Can the shadows that are haunting them in their dreams be responsible for all the disappearances?

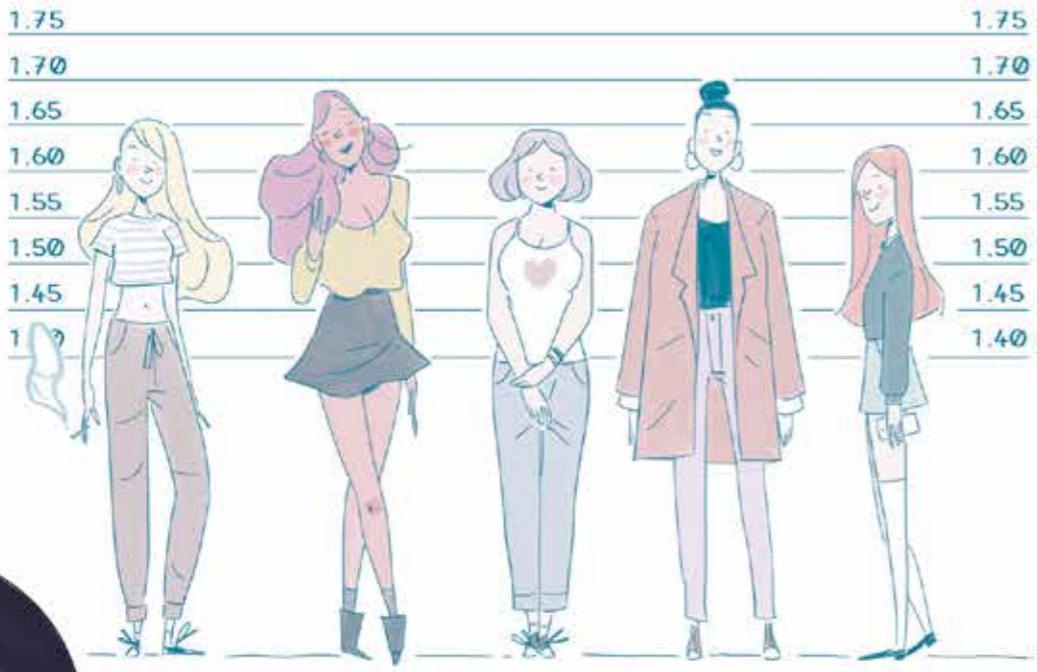


**The perfect graphic novel for
fans of *Stranger Things!***



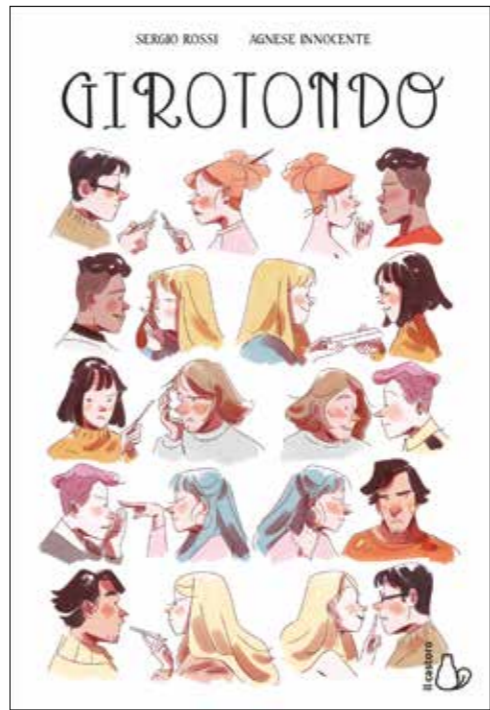
Flexicover
Pages: 184
Format: 14x20.5 cm
Age: 11+

Rights sold in Spanish (World), Catalan, France



I reckon my name means nothing to you...

...At least not yet 😊



MERRY-GO-ROUND

by Sergio Rossi
illustrations by Agnese Innocente

Inspired by Arthur Schnitzler's eponymous play, *Merry-Go-Round* is a cycle of ten episodes, each featuring two teen protagonists, one of whom will reappear in the following episode and so on. The characters are typical teens, looking for love and trying to figure out their place in the world: they stumble, fall, and pick themselves back up while arguing, telling fibs, and revealing the most secret sides of themselves. Missed appointments, love triangles, secret stories, parties, suspected pregnancies: here are the intensely-felt everyday lives of a group of 16-year-olds, depicted with delicacy and thoughtfulness.

Love in the times of WhatsApp!

Follow a group of teens as they navigate their young lives.



Flexicover
Pages: 184
Format: 15.8x23 cm
Age: 14+



BACKLIST

A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE



Someone Like Anthony

by S. Mattiangeli
Ill. by M. Di Giorgio

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

Rights sold in France, Spanish (World), Ukraine, Turkey, China, Arabic (World), Japan, Croatia, Slovenia



Have You Seen Anna?

by S. Mattiangeli
Ill. by C. Carrer

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

Rights sold in France, Spanish (World), Turkey, China, Korea, Arabic (World)



How the Teacher Really Works

by S. Mattiangeli
Ill. by C. Carrer

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

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

FOR A GOOD LAUGH



Yawns

by M. Viale

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

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



The Red Hood

by A. Traini

Age: 4+ | Pages: 32 | 14.5x22 cm

Rights sold in Spanish (World), Catalan, Turkey, Greece, China



I Am a Horse

by B. Friot
Ill. by G. Tessaro

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

Rights sold in France, Portugal, Spanish (World), Catalan, Armenia, China

CLICK THE ★ FOR MORE INFO!



BEST FRIENDS



She's Not a Duck!

by F. Degl'Innocenti
Ill. by M. Girón

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

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



The Kind Crocodile

by L. Panzieri
Ill. by A. Ferrari

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

Rights sold in USA, Spanish (World), Greece, Armenia, Arabic (World), Japan, Korea, China, Russia



Story of a Inkdrop and a Snowflake

by P. Baccalario, A. Gatti
Ill. by S. Mulazzani

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

Rights sold in USA, Germany, Spanish (World), Luxembourg, China, Taiwan

★ THE IF I WERE... SERIES

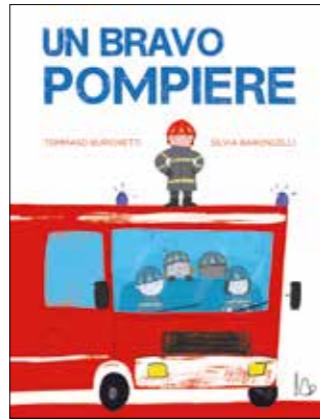
by various authors | Illustrations by Silvia Baroncelli

How would you spend your day *if you were a...*? In this picture-book series, real-life professionals tell kids about their occupations, making it fun and easy to understand what each job involves day in and day out.



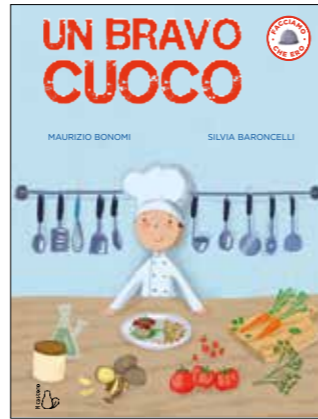
A Good Vet
by D. Quagliotti

Age: 4+ | Pages: 32 | 20.5x27 cm



A Good Fireman
by T. Burchietti

Age: 4+ | Pages: 32 | 20.5x27 cm



A Good Cook
by M. Bonomi

Age: 4+ | Pages: 32 | 20.5x27 cm
JANUARY 2021

A picture-book series about jobs, written by real-life professionals, to encourage kids to dream big!



★ THE TANDEM SERIES

by various authors | Curated by Lodovica Cima

A 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!



tandem 

Printed in Sassoon Primary, an easy-to-read typeface.

HILARIOUS READS FOR 8+



The All-Mine Academy

by F. Silei
Ill. by A. Gon

Age: 10+ | Pages: 256
b/w illustrations | 14x20.5 cm

Rights sold in Spanish (World),
Catalan, Poland, Romania, Japan,
Greece, Turkey, China, Russia



Granddad Trouble

by F. Silei
Ill. by A. Gon

Age: 10+ | Pages: 128
b/w illustrations | 14x20.5 cm

Rights sold in Germany, Greece,
Serbia, China, Russia



Poop Express: Let's Get Even!

by F. Moretti
Ill. by D. Guicciardini

Age: 9+ | Pages: 144
b/w illustrations | 14x20.5 cm

Rights sold in Spanish
(Latin America)

DIVERSE BOOKS FOR ALL AGES



The Boy in the Suitcase

by Z. Dazzi

Age: 9+ | Pages: 144 | 14x20.5 cm



The Recipe for Happiness

by E. Fornasari

Age: 10+ | Pages: 192 | 14x20.5 cm



So Far So Close

by A. Tognolini

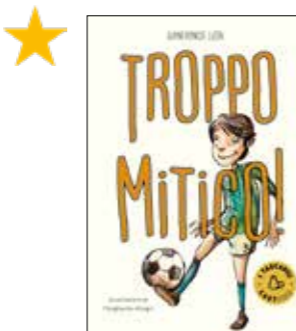
Age: 13+ | Pages: 176 | 14x21 cm



The Hip-Hop King

by G. Liori
Ill. by M. Allegri

Age: 8+ | Pages: 192
b/w illustrations | 14x20.5 cm



What a Legend!

by G. Liori
Ill. by M. Allegri

Age: 8+ | Pages: 160
b/w illustrations | 14x20.5 cm

Rights sold in Serbia,
Poland, China



SPINE-CHILLERS



Rebecca and the Violin Spider

by O. Corio

Age: 11+ | Pages: 304 | 14x21 cm



Come Back to Me

by L. Ballerini

Age: 13+ | Pages: 288 | 14x21 cm

Rights sold in The Netherlands
and Poland

COMING-OF-AGE FICTION



Zorro in the Snow

by P. Zannoner

Age: 12+ | Pages: 192 | 14x21 cm

Rights sold in Turkey, Russia, Bulgaria, China



Six Dancers for a Dad

by P. Zannoner

Age: 11+ | Pages: 208 | 14x20.5 cm

Rights sold in Turkey, Russia



The Scent of the Sun

by E. Castiglioni

Age: 11+ | Pages: 240 | 14x21 cm



Listen to the Beat

by Z. Dazzi

Age: 11+ | Pages: 184 | 14x20.5 cm

GRAPHIC NOVELS



The Red Zone

by S. Vecchini and Sualzo

Age: 9+ | Pages: 144 | 14x20.5 cm
Full-color illustrations

Rights sold in USA, Spanish (Latin America), Korea, Slovenia



21 Days Until the End of the World

by S. Vecchini and Sualzo

Age: 11+ | Pages: 208 | 14x20.5 cm
Full-color illustrations

Rights sold in France, Spanish (World)



An Exceptional Snowfall

by L. Tenorini

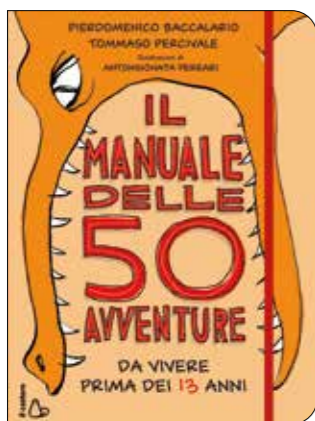
Ill. by M. Ruggeri

Age: 9+ | Pages: 168 | 14x20.5 cm
Full-color illustrations



★ THE HANDBOOK SERIES

by various authors | Illustrations by A. Ferrari



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

by P. Baccalario and T. Percivale

Age: under 13! | Pages: 176
2 color illustrations | 14x19.3 cm



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

by P. Baccalario and E. Jáuregui

Age: 9+ | Pages: 192
2 color illustrations | 14x19.3 cm



The 50 Little Revolutions Handbook (to Change the World)

by P. Baccalario and F. Taddia

Age: 9+ | Pages: 192
2 color illustrations | 14x19.3 cm



The 50 Challenges Handbook to Become a Champion

by P. Baccalario and M. Proserpi

Age: 9+ | Pages: 208
2 color illustrations | 14x19.3 cm

Best-selling series all over the world!

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

★ NON-FICTION



The Big Book of Magical Objects

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

Age: 10+ | Pages: 128 with 16 flaps
Full-color illustrations | 23x30 cm

Rights sold in Russia, Japan, Armenia



To Post or Not to Post?

From an idea by Parole Ostili
by F. Taddia and C. Cubeddu
Ill. by GUD

Age: 11+ | Pages: 168
b/w illustrations | 14x20.5 cm

Rights sold in Russia, Spanish (World)



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