








FICTION - RIGHTS LIST

FALL 2024



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Sveva Casati Modignani enchants us once more with a riveting story exploring the power of human relationships



480 pages
October 2024

THE NEW
NOVEL BY
THE QUEEN
OF ITALIAN
FICTION

—
AN INTIMATE
NARRATIVE
FULL OF
PASSION,
SECRETS AND
INSIGHTS

HIM, HER, AND PARADISE Sveva Casati Modignani

Dino Solbiati has spent his life accumulating a fortune and becoming an entrepreneur renowned the world over for his generosity and empathy. Like a sovereign, he lives surrounded by an entourage of friends and collaborators he cannot do without, as he fears solitude. One day, in his old age, Dino finds himself alone, sitting on a plush chair and elegantly attired, in a mysterious place suspended in the void. Disoriented and weary, he falls asleep. He wakes to a whispering sound, and sees the slender figure of an old lady. She is barefoot, clad in pajamas covered in sparkling white stars, and is walking on a bridge of tiny clouds. The lady approaches Dino and says, «Mr. Solbiati, might I have a minute of your time? My name is Stella Recalcati». Stella is an author of popular romances and always looking for new stories. She explains that both she and Dino are in heaven and, being the busybody that she is, coaxes him into talking about himself. Thus emerges an adventuresome biography, rich in plots and passions that irresistibly draw the reader in the twists and turns of an incredible life. The mother Dino adored, who hid a shameful secret and forever shaped his relationship to women – his flings and passions, his mistresses and wives, invariably put on a pedestal, shown off and pampered, then superseded by the next new love, all in the wake of his unquenchable thirst for life.

An intense and poignant story digging deep in the human soul to bring to light the contradictions of living and playing hard, always desperately trying to conquer everything and everyone.



SVEVA CASATI MODIGNANI

With a literary career that began in 1981 and continues uninterrupted to this day, 38 works published in over 40 years and more than 12 million copies sold, Sveva Casati Modignani is one of the best-loved and most read writers ever and has created a true literary universe, unique and extraordinarily popular. A universe in which the dream of the romantic fairy tale and the realism of everyday life, melodramatic passions and glamour are seamlessly interwoven to create compelling plots.

FAMILY DINNER SERIES



OVER 500 000
COPIES
SOLD!!!

Foreign rights
sold to:
PORTUGAL
EGYPT



2017 - 196 pages



2019 - 240 pages



2021 - 304 pages



2023 - 480 pages

The stories of four inseparable girlfriends, between past and present. A mirror of contemporary women, navigating new aspirations and everyday issues.

Every Thursday a fine Milanese restaurant welcomes four usual guests - Andreina, Carlotta, Gloria and Maria Sole. Four friends, four young women who reserve that one evening a week to catch up and confide in one another. Two are single, two in a relationship. All four are haunted by problems of the heart – so-so love stories, men who promised the world and made princely gifts and then either vanished, or turned chauvinistic slobs who think kitchen appliances are all that's needed to make a woman happy. All four have to face difficult choices, grief, unexpected changes in their lives. But they know one thing. Whatever it will be, their friends will stand by, just like a real family. A story of true values and loves – the ones that really make you feel at home.

FOUR WONDERFUL PORTRAITS OF WOMEN, WITH ALL THEIR FEARS AND DREAMS.



464 pages
October 2022



Foreign rights
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PORTUGAL

**OVER 100 000
COPIES
SOLD!!!**

MERCHANT OF DREAMS

The engrossing story of a man who dared to live a passionate life to the full.

A gun-shot echoes in the foyer of an elegant palazzo in the center of Milan and a man collapses to the ground in a pool of blood. The attack is front-page news because the victim, Raimondo Clementi, is the legendary president of the Italian Stock Exchange, a universally respected and admired figure.

Clementi survives, but the attack has raised so many questions that a major magazine decides to make it the cover story of its next issue. The journalist chosen for the task of interviewing Clementi is Giovanna Vitali – young, ambitious, and hopefully persistent enough to persuade a notoriously reserved man to drop his guard so she can piece together his life story. Their conversations – taking place at Villa Dorotea, on Lake d’Orta – become more and more intimate and confidential, as Clementi recounts page by page a past as riveting as any novel. From his studies at Università Cattolica to the top posts in finance, the professional life of this merchant of dreams has written a major chapter in Italian history, and his private life was a succession of overwhelming passions and secret tragedies until, overcoming a thousand obstacles, he finally found Tilli, a never-forgotten childhood friend that became the true love of his life. Both a breathtaking saga and an intimate confession.

THE HAWK

Two powerful and fiery characters - so intense and authentic they spring from the page, coming to actual life.

They had been stored in the hidden compartment of a drawer, but now they have emerged - a cache of letters from a distant past. And a photograph, capturing the love between a boy and a girl. Holding those papers in her hands, a woman opens once more a window to that past. Then, suddenly, she consigns all those memories to the fire. Since that snapshot was taken, forty years ago, Giulietta has lived a full life. Now she is a widow, but her marriage had been happy. Though her husband was not the boy in the picture. That was Rocco di Falco - the “Hawk” - as smug and predatory as his name suggested. Giulietta had done her very best to forget him, but through the years she kept seeing his face on the front pages of papers and the covers of magazines, along with the news of his entrepreneurial successes. And now, however hard she tries to close the book on him, fate seems determined to reopen it once more, making her meet Rocco in the very same place of their first encounter. As if fate wanted to afford Rocco the second chance he had always hoped for. Because Giulietta was his one and only love, and though back then she suddenly vanished from his life, their love story never really ended.



512 pages
October 2020



Foreign rights
sold to:
**PORTUGAL,
SERBIA**

**OVER 140 000
COPIES
SOLD!!!**



A kindergarten run by nuns set next to Rome
A new teacher. An introverted 5-year-old boy who
communicates through drawings.



256 pages
July 2024

Foreign rights
sold to:
FRANCE

"Who is the
person in this
drawing?"
"He is bad. He
kills me."
"What are you
talking about?
You are a
child..."
"He kills me
later. When I
grow up."

THE NEW TEACHER

Valerio Marra

Drawings by **TEO**

La nuova maestra is an innovative and sweeping psychological thriller about Giulia's descent into hell as a kindergarten teacher searching for her place in the world. It will be little Teo's drawings that explain to her that someone very close wants to hurt her...

Frascati, Roman castles area. Teo is the saddest child in his class. The nuns of the Colomba Antonietta kindergarten have welcomed him with affection, but Teo hardly ever plays or goes out at recess. He always stays in his seat, observes the world with a dazed look and draws. Giulia, the new teacher, immediately takes a liking to his peculiar character: like her, he seems to carry the weight of a pain. Gradually Teo's drawings begin to become strange, then inexplicable and finally disturbing. In the meantime, Giulia begins to experience strange discomforts. Day after day, instead of getting better, she seems to get worse: she arrives at school late, becomes forgetful and confused, and complains of excruciating pains she has never experienced before. Triggered by the recent loss of Giovanni, her beloved brother, Giulia becomes convinced that her health depends on the malign influence of a statuette she keeps at home, found near the archaeological site of Tusculum, where Giovanni was doing research work. It is a very rare artefact, a bronze representation of the Etruscan hero Telegonus. And when Telegono, with his warrior-like appearance and fiery eyes, inexplicably becomes one of the characters drawn by Teo, Giulia thinks she is going mad.

Valerio Marra lives in Rome and holds a degree in Science for Investigation and Security from the University of Perugia. He is the author of the novels *L'eco del peccato*, *Anima bianca*, *La donna del lago*, *Una notte buia di settembre* and the essay *La storia di Roma in 100 delitti*.



A stack of books in front of a closed door.
 A pain that won't go away.
 A story of rebirth through literature



352 pages
 September 2024

FRENCH and
 ENGLISH
 EXCERPTS
 AVAILABLE

*"We will
 make it," she
 whispers to
 her, "I don't
 know how,
 but I promise
 you that you
 and I will
 make it."*

THE BOOKSTORE BETWEEN TWO RIVERS

Alice Prina

Lyon. In an old workshop for the processing of silk transformed into a charming bookstore together with her best friend Sophie, Greta made her dream come true. She built a life for herself, away from Milan, the city where she was born and raised. One day, however, Sophie falls ill. And within a few months she passes away. Greta finds herself having to look after Lena, the teenage daughter of her friend, and the bookstore business, which are definitely going less well than expected. Without Sophie, her rock, the world seems to be crumbling. And Lena, locked in her grief, has no intention of accepting a new mother. In an attempt to find a common language, Greta begins to pile up books in front the locked door of the girl's room. They are the novels that changed her life, the masterpieces of her heart: a silent offering of love. Between stories, exchanges of books and an unexpected investigation into the story of her great-grandmother Catena that will lead them to move between Milan, Paris and Lyon, Greta will succeed in winning the trust of Lena.

"La libreria tra due fiumi" is a story of rebirth through literature. A novel that touches the tones and the colors of the comic and the dramatic, an adventure of great joy and terrible sadness, always seeking for happiness. A celebration of the importance of books, of their ability to create bonds and to heal, page after page.

Alice Prina lives in Lyon, she is a teacher and collaborates with various book promotion entities between France and Italy. Her family founded the historic Milanese publishing house Studio Editoriale and so from an early age she learnt to discover and love literature. *La Libreria tra due fiumi* is her first novel



288 pages
November 2024

An author with
over 300.000
copies sold

THE NEW NOVEL

Francesco Sole

Marco and Sara have been living together for several years. Theirs is a solid relationship, in which Marco has always accepted, seemingly without jealousy or resentment, the visibility and success of Sara. They live a mundane life and are very close to another couple of friends, Davide and Giulia. But when Sara, struggling with an urgent work problem, is forced to ask Marco to use her laptop, what neither of them could have imagined happens: Marco comes across a message from Davide addressed to Sara. It is a very intimate message, one of those that two simple friends cannot write to each other. In a second, all of Marco's certainties collapse. Inside him, suspicion turns into a desire for revenge and the desire for revenge into an alibi capable of triggering a tsunami of emotions that will eventually overwhelm not only Sara, but also Davide and Giulia.

"A dreamer for dreamers"

*"Francesco Sole makes poets tremble
and girls sigh"*

The new novel by best-selling author
Francesco Sole

Francesco Sole, was born in Modena, Italy, in 1992. His first book *Stati d'animo su fogli di carta* (2014) was an incredible publishing sensation. With Sperling & Kupfer, he has published *Così è l'amore* (2020), *L'amore ti trova sempre* (2021) and *La storia d'amore che ti cambierà la vita* (2022), *Il segreto della donna più felice del mondo* (2023).

Sooner or later come the days of awareness, when you have to decide whether to continue saving others, things or situations.... Or leave everything behind, and start saving yourself .

(from: The love story that will change your life)



240 pages
November 2023

OVER 50 000
COPIES
SOLD!!!

The story of a woman in rebirth, able to question all her certainties and to start over



240 pages
November 2023

OVER 80 000
COPIES
SOLD!!!

Falling in love is magic, but the real fairy tale is not to get lost

THE SECRET OF THE HAPPIEST WOMAN IN THE WORLD

One day Selene Vanni wakes up and realizes that she is an "almost happy" woman although there is nothing seemingly wrong in her life. She has a partner and the job of her dreams in the bookstore that had been her father's and her grandfather's. Confused and without any more points of reference, Selene begins to question the reason for that unexpected crisis. Of course, there are the economic difficulties related to her business, and then the strange encounter with a man, Riccardo, who suddenly dropped the line between reality and fantasies. Soon, however, Selene realizes that the reasons for her disorientation are many more. Only then, at the moment when she realizes that she has slowly stifled, day after day, year after year, her desires, her passions and, ultimately, her own freedom, does Selene find the courage to "look inside herself without bringing fears from outside" and to "start breathing again".

THE LOVE STORY THAT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE

Adrian is one of those young people who seem more mature than their age: elegant, ambitious, determined, always impeccable. Carla, on the other hand, with her thoughts in the clouds and her bag full of books, finds order in her own chaos, walking nonchalantly to life's appointments, often with her "five minutes late". She works as an editor in a major publishing house, he is a lawyer in one of Milan's most prestigious law firms. When a stroke of lightning sweeps over them, Adrian and Carla, without fully understanding why, feel the need to dive into each other's existence and, shortly after, to move in together in a picturesque villa in the heart of Milan. But even the most beautiful things break. And the things that break without making a sound are the hardest to fix. And is it possible to fall back in love with the person who hurt us most of all?



A new antihero flaunting the rules from a deep-seated sense of justice

A new Sardinian thriller



336 pages
June 2024

Foreign rights
sold to:
EGYPT

MANTENE S'ODIU

Remember to hate

Elias Mandreu

Inspector Stankovich of the Carabinieri has just been assigned to the precinct of Santa Lucia, in Sardinia. And once again, the transfer is punitive. Because Stankovich is a maverick. He flaunts the rules, detests sycophants, and truly hates having superiors and politicians breathing down his neck. But he's great at his job. Which is why, despite the many skeletons in his closet, he still hasn't been dismissed. Stankovich takes his cases personally - too personally, for a state official - and seeks justice with "unusual" methods. And then there are women, his true weakness. So, from the Northern province of Veneto he has been sent to the most remote and isolated little town in Sardinia. The first time he steps into his new office - a concrete box with prim blue window-shutters and a ridiculous green porch, looking to all the world like a pizzeria - he realizes the life of action he loves so much may well have come to an end. But is proven wrong by the body of a young woman found in a cave in the cliffs, half-submerged in water and almost inaccessible from land. She was the daughter of a prominent local entrepreneur, the owner of the trendiest club on Costa Smeralda - a man long suspected of strong ties to organized crime but somehow never indicted. Common thinking dictates the young woman's murder must be linked to her father's shady business, but Stankovich never cared much for common thinking, and follows his own line of investigation. A kidnapping from four decades ago and a ramson disappeared in thin air will provide the key to the most unfathomable of solutions.

Elias Mandreu is the name of a collective of writers - Andrea and Mauro Pusceddu and Eugenio Annichiarico. The collective has already published two novels, *Nero riflesso* and *Dopotutto*, and contributed to the murder mystery anthologies edited by Francesco Abate, *Giallo Sardo* [Sardinian Thrillers] and *Un'altra estate* [Another summer. Sardinian Thrillers 2], both published by Piemme.



An actor of international renown, star of the hit television series Gomorra and Fargo, debuts on the literary scene with a breathtaking thriller series

“With a professional background in the creative environment that has reshaped the very code of television crime stories, Salvatore Esposito has crafted a charismatic and ambivalent hero - a contemporary mind-hunter promising to star in a long series of publications”



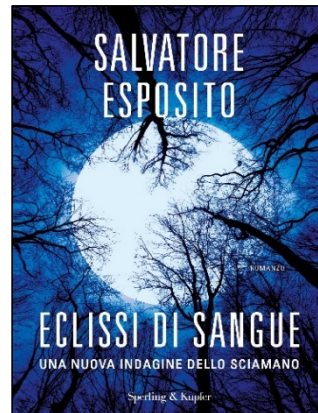
THE SHAMAN

336 pages
June 2021

English excerpt available

Foreign rights sold to:
FRANCE

Christian Costa is a profiler with a special expertise on ritual killings. The Interpol, the FBI, Scotland Yard - there's not a police department or major crime squad where he hasn't been called upon at least once. He has become known as the Shaman because of his unorthodox methods on scenes of the crime and the astounding success rate of his investigations. An infallibility so unique that even his superiors are willing to tolerate his short temper and his questionable past. Until the day the burnt corpse of a woman is found crucified on the hills near the town of Benevento. In his search for the truth Costa will have to delve deep into the shadowy world of centuries-old witchcraft rituals that are seemingly still going on in the woods surrounding the city. The investigation will lead him on a journey to the center of the occult and of an unsolved mystery lurking in his personal past.



ECLYPSE OF BLOOD

336 pages
October 2022

Stepping out of the airport, Christian Costa finds a black sedan from Policía Judicial de A Coruña waiting for him. A new victim has just been added to the thick file of the investigation: Telma Queiroz Duarte, 24. Her throat has been cut, but before her death the killer had butchered her, inflicting a series of savage stab wounds. But the fetus who laid in her womb has been removed, leaving a gaping absence as wide and awful as the enigma facing Christian Costa and Inspector Francisco Cruzado, an old acquaintance of the Shaman from the time they were both young detectives at the Interpol branch in Manchester. Their investigation will put them on the trail of a serial killer, or possibly a cult, and face to face with a vicious truth and an unpredictable, dramatic epilogue.



THE WITCHES OF LOURDES

272 pages
November 2024

When the calm in Lourdes is shattered by a series of murders linked to alleged satanic rituals, Christian Costa decides to travel to the French town to investigate. The police don't understand why the Shaman, such a famous profiler, is interested in a local news story, but perhaps these events could be pieces of a larger puzzle, part of a much more intricate plot involving Christian, his dark and mysterious past, and his complex family history. Who is Musa, the girl who seems to have disappeared without a trace after a satanic ritual in a forest near Lourdes? Could she be connected to Sophia, the criminal organization the Shaman has been hunting? Is this the path that will lead Costa to reunite with his daughter and find the answers to the questions that have plagued his mind for so long? To uncover the truth, he will have to push the boundaries of life itself and stare death in the face, losing himself in the darkest corners of his memory.



A brilliant style to face the harshest themes such as violence against women, keeping the reader with bated breath until the last page.


Sperling & Kupfer

336 pages
June 2024

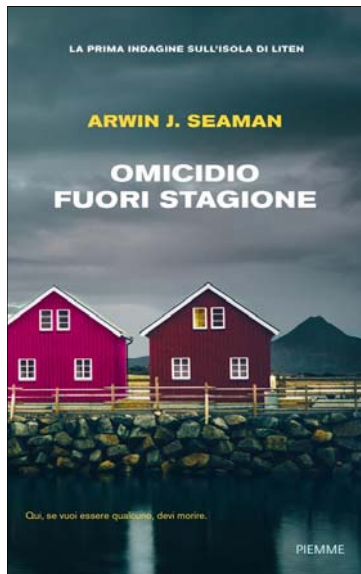
Manuel Bova confirms himself as a brilliant storyteller of evocative and real stories

AN INCH OF WONDER Manuel Bova

The restaurant of their first date, Rossano with his freshly cut hair and unkempt beard: to Nina it seems like a perfect evening. She is convinced that he will finally ask her to marry him, and she wears her beloved red dress for the occasion. Everything seems as it should be, until Ross utters the fateful words, "I need to talk to you." And, walking away, he leaves Nina alone, heartbroken, thinking about all that could have been and never will be. On the same evening, someone else experiences tremendous grief: it is an old man, who entrusts to a diary his thoughts for his daughter, with whom he no longer speaks. He does not know what to do with his life, and spends sleepless nights checking which streetlights are not working, to report them to the municipality. Finally, a troubled man with a dark soul becomes the protagonist of a crime involving Genoa, Nina and the elderly gentleman. Three characters linked by the red thread of destiny, three distinct narrative voices, three intertwining events come to life in the caruggi, in a novel made of contrasts: sweet and bitter, happiness and melancholy, failure and rebirth. Manuel Bova confirms himself as a brilliant storyteller of evocative and real stories, capable of adapting his style to even the harshest themes such as violence against women and keeping the reader with bated breath until the last page.

I think of the astonished faces of those who believe that the four of clubs certainly can't come out. To that inch of wonder that, as long as you are able to experience it, you still have hope after all.

Manuel Bova was born in 1983. An engineer by training and a gym manager by trade, Bova lives in Genoa, devoting his free time to his favorite hobby - writing - and organizing murder mystery dinner parties.



OFF-SEASON MURDER

384 pages
March 2023

16.000
copies sold

"Never had such a thing happened here.« This is the phrase that forensic officer Henning Ohlson hears constantly since his arrival in Liten, a volcanic island wedged in a patch of sea between Sweden and Denmark. Because the murder of a fifteen-year-old girl has nothing to do with the quiet, lonely life on that pile of rocks and woods on which Henning had not set foot for four years. And to which he hoped he would never have to return. In Liten nothing ever happens, and he knows this very well given all the weekends he has spent there trying to bring the woman he loved back to the mainland. The extinct volcano with its perfectly circular lake, so turquoise in colour that it looks drawn, is a beautiful attraction during the summer months. But now that very lake is the scene of a horrendous crime, a girl murdered, tied up to look like a star, and abandoned in the crystal-clear water that has created a thin layer of ice around her. No, nothing like this ever happened on the island. Henning has been called in for his vast experience in forensics, but what he will have to do in Liten will be much more than a few surveys and hundreds of photographs. No one there knows how to conduct a real investigation and he is the only one with experience. He and the reason he hates the island, Annelie Lidhal. Together with his naif assistant Kay Bak, Commissioner Owe Dahlberg, who would rather attend an apple-picking festival than a murder investigation, and Malin, a restless teenager and aspiring influencer, they will try to unravel the first chapter of what seems to be the beginning of a nightmare

The incredibly intriguing detective stories of the community of Liten, a tiny imaginary island in the body of water between Sweden and Denmark.

«Here, if you want to be someone, you have to die»

Arwin J. Seaman is the pseudonym of a major Italian writer. He has penned the first two chapters of the successful series set on the imaginary island of Liten and two more are to come.

Suddenly, Liten has found itself besieged by tourists. The case of the three girls found murdered in the volcanic lake has drawn crowds of people to the remote island and its dark charms. The life of the islanders, not used to the spotlight, is disrupted. Malin Dahlberg, the daughter of the chief of police, has turned into an Internet sensation. Her reports on the triple homicide and her morbid challenges have become viral, with followers now in the thousands. Until she is blamed with the death of a school mate, Åke, fallen from a cliff while taking an extreme video in what appears as an attempt to emulate her. Malin is certain Åke's death was no accident. It was murder. Yet she herself becomes the target of the investigation. Because Malin had a motive - she hated Åke with a vengeance. So now she must try and exonerate herself. But her behavior - unpredictable, contradictory - makes it harder and harder for people to believe her.

A DAY OF APPARENT CALM

336 pages
March 2024





Paola Barbato was born in 1971 in Milan and now lives in Verona. She is a comic book writer and screenwriter, including Dylan Dog. She published *Bilico*, *Mani nude* (winner of the Scerbanenco Prize), *Il filo rosso*, *Non ti faccio niente*, *L'ultimo ospite*, *La cattiva strada*, *Il dono*. *So chi sei* and *Zoo* began the trilogy that ends with *Vengo a prenderti*, a unique extraordinary ending of the two parallel stories.

- The unrivalled queen of the Italian thriller scene that will keep you awake without shedding a single drop of blood. Or almost.
- An author with over 70.000 copies sold



THE GIFT  432 pages
May 2023

"It was my heart. I didn't do it." With these words, shouted at a white wall in his parents' flat, and a bloody knife in his hands the man greets the police. Everyone knows him, he is a journalist, a man of integrity, calm, respected. Who has now become a brutal murderer. Inspector Flavia Mariani is astonished. The man is a heart transplant patient, and the donor is a serial killer who had acted undisturbed for years, until he died in a trivial car accident. Could this be a clue? But the heart is not the only organ that has been donated and now Flavia must find the others. To save them. Or to stop them.



THE BAD ROAD  320 pages
May 2022

He should have known better than to open that box. It was one of the unspoken rules of the assignment. But he'd been afraid he'd somehow damaged the contents, and he did. Signing his own death warrant. Giosciua Gambelli never expected much from life and life repaid him by the same token. Yet now, at thirty, he has a job he's actually good at: he is a courier, though he's never sure what it is he is delivering, and never thought to wonder. Maybe that's why they hired him. No ambition, no curiosity. No questions asked, never a glitch. Always at night.

Foreign rights sold to:
POLAND, SPAIN



THE LAST GUEST  416 pages
June 2021

At the start it's just a vague feeling, that something is wrong in the ancient, crumbling villa where Letizia will be confined for several days along with Flavio, the solicitor she's working for. The ninety-years-old woman who owned the house has died leaving no heirs and no written will, so a host of distant relatives has crept out of the woodwork to fight tooth and nail over the villa. And everything within it. An ordinary estate dispute, then. But not this time. It's the small details that just don't add up.

English excerpt available

Foreign rights sold to:
POLAND, LITHUANIA



Fourteen years and the dream of the Olympics.
But life seems to have different plans.

A wonderful story of friendship



486 pages
July 2024

Shaila felt drained, her identity was being taken away. They were depriving her of her right to choose. To choose where to live, what to dream, whom to love. There would be no more podium for her heart..

SINCE IT'S NO LONGER SUMMER

Giuseppe Isoni

On those summer evenings, in the swimming pool where they use to train, Shaila Akter and Marta Sardella are no longer just the two promises of the Italian national synchronised diving team with dreams of reaching the Olympics. Fourteen years old and the best of friends, lying on that platform, at ten metres of height, they imagine the freedom to be who they want and how they want. Everything changes the day Shaila gets her first period. For her, born in Naples by an immigrant father from Bangladesh, it means only one thing: to leave her life, her home, her best friend, to return to the land of origin to which she does not feel to belong, betrothed in marriage to a stranger. That's why she tries so hard to hide from everyone of 'having become a woman', to hold on to get to the World Championships in Rome, the occasion that she and Marta have always been waiting for, the chance to make their passion into a life project. But when fate seems already written, when all seems lost forever, perhaps it is friendship the only springboard to fly again.

Giuseppe Isoni is a film director and screenwriter with a diploma from the International Academy of visual arts and new media in Milan. His films have been screened at the most prestigious international and national film festivals, such as David di Donatello, Nastri d'Argento and Palm Springs Shortfest, and won awards at the Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia and the Aspen Shortfest.



A book which is a tapestry of the personal and the social, reminding us that the best version of humanity is that of people who meet in diversity and inclusion.



288 pages
October 2024

THE SKY ABOVE VIA PADOVA

Daria Colombo

Letizia is a middle-aged teacher from the Milanese bourgeoisie, living a sheltered and comfortable life with Massimo, her husband of many years and her partner in this apparently blessed existence. She's had her sorrows too, of course, from losing both parents much too early to finding out she can never have children, but Letizia always found a way to keep going, though her way was raising ever higher defenses, isolating herself from others. Which is the reason why, when out of the blue Massimo leaves her, everything falls apart. How is she supposed to start over at her age? How can she give up all that that's familiar and face the unknown? The first thing she needs do to rebound, Letizia realizes, is to leave behind the place of her abandonment, the home where everything she sees just reminds her of the past. But rents in Milan are astronomical, so it's either the suburbs or Via Padova, a neighborhood Letizia always looked down as degraded and dangerous. Well, she says to herself, it's just going to be temporary, anyway. As it turns out, Via Padova is the place where she will heal and start a new life. Her experiences in this surprising new neighborhood, both good and bad, and the unexpected and unforgettable people she will meet there will change her forever. A statement on the way new visions can take the place of prejudice, as long we set aside our fears and learn to be open and trusting towards what we don't know.

Daria Colombo, is an entrepreneur, journalist, and novelist, who for thirty years has been collaborating with the work of her husband, the singer and songwriter Roberto Vecchioni. An activist in the name of democracy and legality and social change, she has been town councilor for Equal gender opportunities. She's been published by Rizzoli and La Nave di Teseo and has been the recipient of the "Bagutta Award for best debut novel" with her first work *Meglio dirselo*.



What is true love?

Poet and novelist Mattia Ollerongis, with his stories of young love and relationships, tells about the fears and frights of the new generations.



224 pages
November 2024

AN AUTHOR WITH OVER 150.000 COPIES SOLD

“Ollerongis honors the reality of feelings, made up of surges, earthquakes and butterflies in the stomach.”

IF YOU FEEL LOST THINK OF ME

Mattia Ollerongis

In everyone's eyes, Chiara and Matteo are the perfect couple, complicit and close-knit, they have the envy of everyone. He is crazy about her and covers her with attention; she is convinced there is no better guy to spend the rest of her life with. But as the two of them find themselves sharing their days and future plans, Matthew, unable to manage his own insecurity, becomes increasingly dominant, isolating Chiara from the rest of the world. And she finds herself trapped in a vicious cycle of psychological abuse that she struggles to recognize. True love, she will discover, is that which does not hurt, makes one grow and makes one free.

Mattia Ollerongis was born in 1995 in Trieste where he lives to this day. In 2015 he made his debut on social media, sharing thoughts and poems that immediately went viral. With Sperling & Kupfer he has published eleven books and sold over 150.000 copie





The gay world told with levity and humor,
in a novel about love, friendship,
and toxic relationships



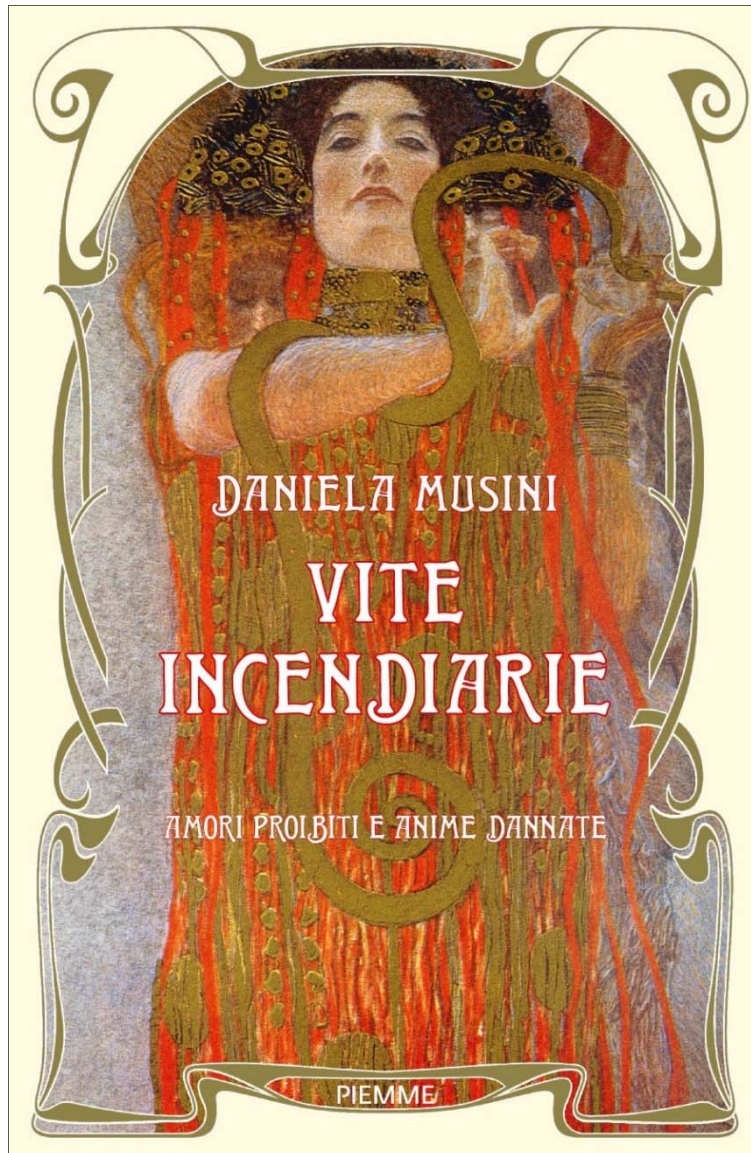
224 pages
June 2024

*Because
lightness is "the
only way to
float among
the heaviness
of humankind."*

DON'T MISS OUT Dimitri Cocciuti

Sacha is almost forty and can't seem to find the right man. With a brilliant career and a loyal circle of friends, all that's missing from his life is love. His friendship with Alessandro, as dark and handsome as they come, might well become something more, but Sacha still hesitates to make his move. Luckily, Chiara, Mattia, and Marco are always there to pick him up when he's down. Though they too are not in the best of places. Chiara has just found out her ex-husband is expecting a child from his lover. Marco, an inveterate playboy, is chasing the one girl that eludes him. And then there's Mattia, a brilliantly talented drag queen who still hasn't come out to his parents. Sacha and his three friends share woes and support in their endless brunches on a Roman terrace, set against the sweltering backdrop of the Eternal City.

Born in 1984, **Dimitri Cocciuti** started out as television writer to become the manager of one of the most prestigious tv production companies in the country. Debuting in 2006, when he was just 22, he has collaborated with Italian tv personalities such as Fiorello and Raffaella Carrà. It was his idea to bring to Italian screens the Emmy award-winning "RuPaul's Drag Race" - and in 2021 launched "Drag Race Italia", becoming the show's artistic director. He is also the author of two successful self-published novels.



The star-crossed and all-consuming passions of reckless geniuses in pursuit of transcendence.
By a master of literary portraits an author with over 20,000 copies sold



416 pages
November 2024

In her elegant and finely-tuned style, Daniela Musini zeroes in to the very essence of these tormented souls, composing a mosaic of lives impossible to forget. An enticing, fascinating book, bearing witness to a boundless love for the study and the practice of art.



INCENDIARY LIVES

Forbidden loves and doomed souls

Daniela Musini

A captivating, bewitching journey in the lives of twenty-one historical figures, men and women unique in talent, fragility, and recklessness. Beguiling and incandescent, and masterfully told by a writer who can see well beyond appearances. Stories so riveting and provocative one would think they belonged to the realm of fiction, were they not firmly rooted in historical research.

The tragic poetry of **Marina Tsvetaeva**, the haunted life of **Edgar Allan Poe**, the revolutionary and disruptive art of **Pablo Picasso**, a vampire of women. And more: the demonic brimstone of **Rasputin**, the erratic life of **Antonio Ligabue**, the tragic fall of the angel **Kurt Cobain**, the incomparable charisma of **Marlon Brando**. Here you'll find the glitter from the Roaring Twenties of **Rudolph Valentino** and **Josephine Baker**, juxtaposed to the tortured soul of **Judy Garland**, the poetic demons of **Anne Sexton**, the enchantments of **Casanova's** libertine Venice.

All such figures are starkly brought to life on the page, revealing their dark sides, their excesses, their desperate search for perfection. Lives lived beyond all conventions, in a furious balance between genius and perdition, light and darkness.

A multifaceted artist, **Daniela Musini** is a writer, pianist, theatre actor and author. She has toured Italy, Russia, Japan, France, Belarus, Germany, Poland, Turkey, the United States and Cuba with her monologues. She is the author of theatre scripts as well as essays and biographies, and with Piemme she has published, to remarkable acclaim, the trilogy, *Le magnifiche* [The Magnificents], *Le Indomabili* [The Indomitable] and *Le incantatrici* [The Enchantresses] Her artistic versatility and accomplishments have earned her 39 national and international literary awards and 20 life accomplishment awards.



URBANO BARBERINI

La bellezza nel destino

Le api, il principe,
l'eredità della famiglia Barberini



Sperling & Kupfer

A dynasty that is a treasure-trove of finds, a diorama of luxurious palaces, noble profligates, domineering beauties, unending disputes and terrible tragedies.



Sperling & Kupfer

304 pages
October 2024

«My wish for you is that you will learn and restore, listen and share. That you will appreciate words and silence, conscientiousness and frugality. And, most of all, that you will seek beauty».

FATED TO BEAUTY

The bees, the prince, the heritage of the Barberini family

Urbano Barberini

Three golden bees on a blue background are the symbol of one of the most important families in Italian aristocracy, the Barberinis, whose riveting story is here told by a modern-day prince. As little Maffeo is the last heir, his father, prince Urbano Riario Sforza Barberini Colonna of Sciarra, retraces for his child the gripping tale of their family, through four centuries of feuds, passions, triumphs and defeats. From the first Maffeo, who would become pope Urban VIII and take up beauty as a life mission, to Cornelia Costanza, who in the Eighteenth century was the promoter of early Italian rococo. From Maffeo Sciarra, the late-Nineteenth-century entrepreneur, politician and patron of the arts who launched, among others, Gabriele d'Annunzio and Matilde Serao, to family members who were leaders in the Twentieth century: Urbano, a pilot in the Italian Royal Airforce whose craft disappeared at sea in 1942; his sister Stefanella, an ante litteram feminist; to his young widow, Nadia, who brilliantly managed the family estate. Finally, the last Urbano, a brilliant screen and stage actor who for years now has carried on a brave struggle to the protection of the environment and the preservation of the arts, and who in these pages entrusts his son and all of us with a timeless lesson.

A screen, stage, and television actor, **Urbano Barberini** has worked in over sixty productions, both in Italy and abroad. He is active in the promotion and protection of both the cultural and environmental heritage, in synergy with the management of his farming estate. He is Bailiff in the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, founded in 1633 by his ancestor, Pope Urban VIII.

Sibyl von der Schulenburg

Come vento tra le vele

**Una storia di amore e coraggio
sull'Amerigo Vespucci**



Sperling & Kupfer

The most famous sailing ship in the world,
a handsome captain, a gorgeous woman,
the true story of a timeless passion.



Sperling & Kupfer

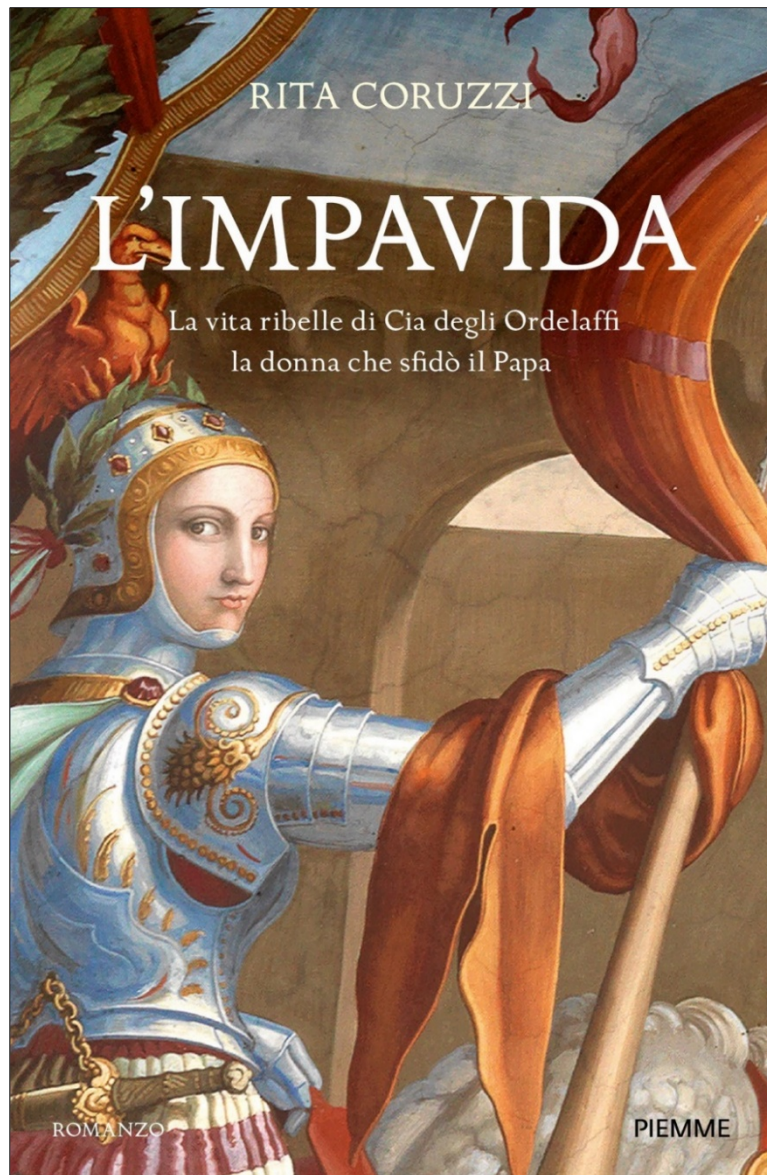
256 pages
October 2024

It was easy to envy that beautiful couple, easy to fall in love with him or her. Or both. They were one half of the other. And together they formed a small universe that could include or exclude all the others.

LIKE WIND IN YOUR SAILS A love story onboard the Amerigo Vespucci Sibyl Von der Schulenburg

Lorenza and Francesco meet for the first time on the school ship Amerigo Vespucci and stay together ever since. The intriguing commander of the most famous vessel in the world hoists the sails of passion and takes the beautiful Venetian woman with him. Supporting one another, these two souls sail together on sometimes troubled waters, and when a truly scary storm hits them, it is Lorenza who stands at the helm. Yet dead reckoning is Francesco's responsibility, so it falls to him to calculate the positions of the stars and the strength of the winds and decide whether to flee the storm or to face it head on. «Lorenza... » calls his voice in the gale, ordering to set the sails when the rest of the crew has already decided to jump ship. «My captain... » answers Lorenza, in tears, holding on to a white tiger. Are they doomed for shipwreck?

Sibyl Von der Schulenburg, born in Lugano and the daughter of two German writers, grew up bilingual and in a multicultural milieu, between Switzerland, Germany and Italy. With university degrees in jurisprudence and psychology, she is an active force in the area of cultural promotion and has launched two literary awards, one of which reserved to the theme of prisons. She is the author of novels and popular essays, and the recipient of several awards and accolades. Her books are translated in German and English.



A girl born to fight. A warrior who would do anything to defend her home.

A woman who made her voice heard at a time when women were silenced



352 pages
January 2024

«All your life you have been Cia the bold, Cia the resolute, a fighter in arms, the young warrior. But is there a woman behind the armor?»

THE INDOMITABLE

The rebellious life of Cia degli Ordelauffi, the woman who defied the Pope

Rita Coruzzi

It is the year 1334 when the young and beautiful Marzia degli Ubaldini, known as Cia, marries Francesco degli Ordelauffi, lord of Forlì and Cesena. Cia had always been a skillful rider, a lover of war games more than embroidery and watercolors, but for a sixteen-year-old, horses and weapons had so far been just for fun, no more than a past-time. Now, side by side with her husband, Cia will have to go into battle and face the harshest of challenges, including plots, betrayals, and defeats. But she will never surrender. It is the time of the violent clash between the Guelphs, supporting the Pope, and the Ghibellins, loyal to the emperor; and when Pope Innocent VI, from his seat in Avignon, decides to reinstate the Papal States by annexing the lands of Emilia and Marca, Cia and Francesco do not give way. To fight back the armies sent from Rome, Cia and Francesco are forced to separate, defending each a different city. Cia, alone with her children and a small troop of soldiers, makes a stand in Cesena, waiting for battle. The siege will be horrific, and just as painful the betrayal of the population which, prostrated, will finally give in to the enticements of the Guelphs and rebel against her to side with the pope. But Cia will never leave the front lines, standing with her soldiers and keeping up the fight, even when her life will be in danger

Rita Coruzzi born 1986 and a quadriplegic for a surgery gone awry when she was ten, has turned her life into a constant battle to show one must never surrender. With Piemme, she has narrated the lives of exceptional female figures, in a series of acclaimed historical novels, recipients of International Awards.



Kira Shell is the nom de plume of an Italian author. She has a Law degree but her real loves are the piano, reading and writing. She started writing when she was just ten and hasn't stopped since. It took her a while, but ever since she made the decision to publish her saga – first on Wattpad, then on Amazon – *Kiss Me Like You Love Me* has won the hearts of women readers of all ages.

KIRA SHELL – A literary phenomenon

Kira Shell is a young Italian author who writes under a pseudonym. In the past she chose to keep her identity private to keep her profession separate from her role as a writer, until she decided to reveal herself to her huge audience in 2023.

Author of Dark romance, she recalls the American dark genre, adding a peculiar lightness and more psychological nuances. The two sagas *Kiss me like you love me* and *Meet Efrem Krugher* have sold over 600,000 copies and conquered the charts, readers and social media.

Kiss me like you love me, which originated in 2017 on Wattpad, has achieved 6 million views and after being self-published on Amazon arrived in bookshops at the end of 2019, published by Sperling & Kupfer. *Meet Efrem Krugher*, the second saga written by Shell, decreed her success.

Spring 2025 will see the arrival of the first volume of the author's highly anticipated new series.

A best-selling author with over **600.000** copies sold

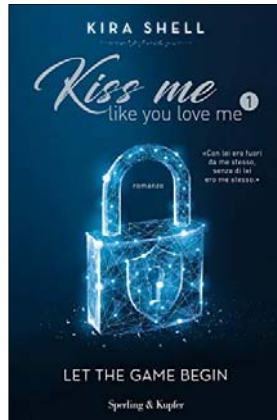
194.000.000 Instagram views for **#KissMeLikeYouLoveMe**

63.000.000 Instagram views for **#KiraShell**

55.000 followers and **670.000** likes for Kira Shell Tiktok profile

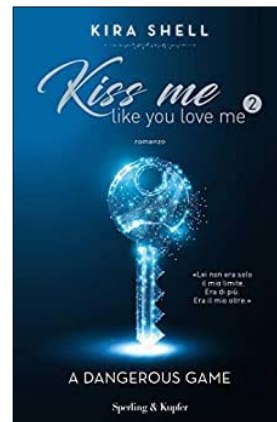
From the point of view of literary phenomena, Kira Shell is unique.

KISS ME LIKE YOU LOVE ME – the series



Sperling & Kupfer
624 pages
2019

LET THE GAME BEGIN



Sperling & Kupfer
524 pages
2019

A DANGEROUS GAME



Sperling & Kupfer
512 pages
2019

GAME OVER

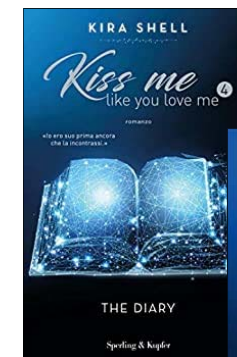
«We were something. Something you could not see but feel, something that existed beyond all qualifiers and definitions. There was no explanation for two such as us.»

«We often lost our way. We were good at screwing up, unrivalled at getting hurt. And yet we were the most beautiful imperfect thing in the world.»

Selene has come to New York to patch things up with her father, and ends up sharing a house with him, his new partner and her three children. Her oldest is Neil, who attracts Selene with the power of a magnet for his inability to love and his troubled past. In a crescendo of Eros and passion, Selene tries with all her might to break through the glass prison Neil has built for himself as a shield against the world. She has realized that Neil is incapable of letting anyone love him, least of all her, and that his psyche is marked by indelible scars from the past that do not allow him to live a normal life. However strong their physical attraction, Neil doesn't want to commit to a real relationship. And more so when he is faced with Player 2511, a maniac out for revenge who is targeting him and his family. With riddles, threats and attacks, the ruthless stranger pulls Neil into a twisted and dangerous game he is dead set on winning, whatever the cost. Stalked by Player 2511, will Neil lose everything, including Selene? Nobody is safe and the fear is real, because life itself is at stake...

WORLD
ENGLISH AND SPANISH
RIGHTS SOLD

KISS ME – the sequel

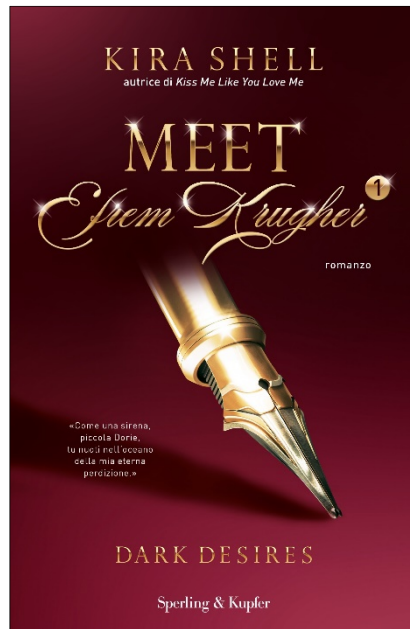


THE DIARY



LET'S PLAY AGAIN

MEET EFREM KRUGHER – the series



640 pages
2021



DARK DESIRES Vol. 1

Thea is twenty-years old, and she is lead guitar of the Bright Demons, a talented band on the verge of making it big. But then her mother dies, and Thea loses herself, putting in jeopardy her entire career. Worried for her future, her grandmother and her manager convince her to go into therapy with Efrem Krugher, a holistic psychiatrist at the head of Asklepios, an unconventional and exclusive rehabilitation center catering to the needs of celebrities wishing to keep under wraps their condition. Krugher, 36, is handsome, magnetic, and hides a dark secret in his past. In a whirlwind of torment and passion, Thea allows herself to be swept off her feet by her new and forbidden love interest, embarking in an exciting and erotic inner journey to the discovery of her deepest and darkest desires. But with the passing of time, she realizes there are terrible threats and awful secrets lurking behind every corner at Asklepios.

DARK SECRETS Vol. 2

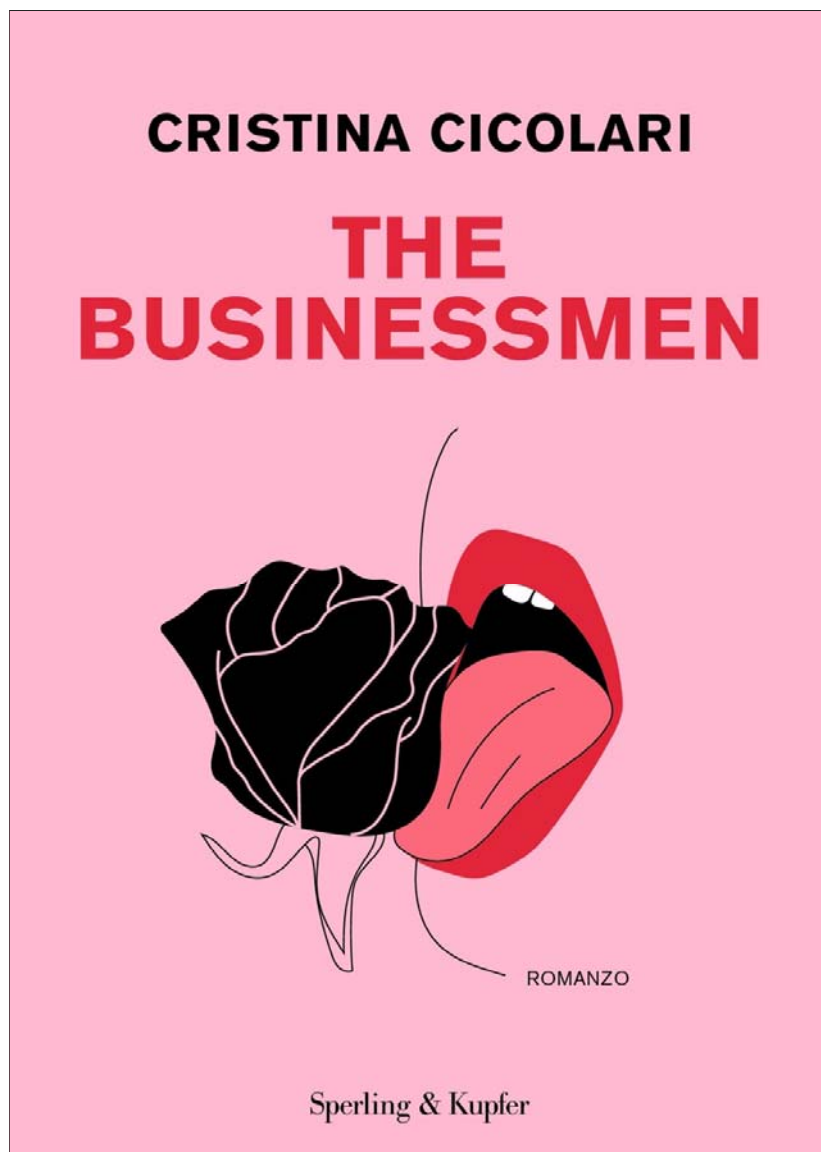
Who is really Efrem Krugher, the doctor to whom Thea has entrusted her life? Is he the melancholic and understanding man, who reads her soul and manages to arouse emotions she thought forgotten, or the cunning and calculating one, who demonstrates extreme eroticism and ignites her senses? Impossible to say, just as it is impossible for Thea to resist Efrem's hypnotic and dangerous charm and especially to stifle the feelings she begins to have for him, despite the age difference and all the obstacles to their relationship. For his part, Efrem is a dark prince who gives no certainties, who seduces and deludes, without allowing the girl to see what lies beneath his armor. Yet, as time passes, something between Efrem and Thea changes, in the fire of passion the flames of love blaze. Despite a thousand adversities, will fate be merciful and allow the two lovers to live with each other forever?

OVER
100.000
COPIES
SOLD



672 pages
2022





Exciting, riveting, racy.

Cristina Cicolari regales us with a love-story, an erotic novel, a riveting page-turner



240 pages
April 2024

THE BUSINESSMEN

Cristina Cicolari

A flat tire under the pouring rain - definitely, Kate's evening out is off to a bad start. When she shows up at the club where her friends are waiting Kate is exasperated, cold, and drenched in rain. She's still trying to make herself presentable when she meets Alex - handsome, charming, sexy. He is the club manager, but his real passion is his work as DJ. The spark between them is instantaneous and all-consuming. Experience has long taught Kate to steer clear of men who won't commit, but Alex is the answer to all her fantasies, reawakening her senses and bringing her to ecstasy. So she allows herself to fall, hard. Until, abruptly, it all comes to an end. Alex is offered a job abroad and once more Kate finds herself alone, picking up the pieces of her broken heart. Hurt as she is, she realizes she needs to start over, and think of herself, for once. So one night she decides to accompany a friend to a party. And sees Fabrizio. He is refined, alluring, seductive, and Kate feels immediately drawn to him. Fabrizio is a businessman, works in fashion, is often away on business trips, and - as Kate will soon discover - his sexual proclivities are intriguing, exhilarating, extreme. Beyond her wildest imagination...

Based on a true story, a sizzling erotic novel, gripping the reader from start to finish with the progressive unveiling of what it really means to give in to passion, and dare to dare.

Cristina Cicolari, born in 1993, works for a communications agency and devotes her free time to her online media channels. She defines herself as a "dis-content creator", likes going against the grain and entertain her followers with irresistible stories. She has created a format on the "basket cases" she meets in real life. The Businessmen is her first novel, based on a true story.

Beppe Roncari has turned for inspiration to one of the XIX century Italian classic and has made it new, with a magical and fantasy twist and an original, unique style.

Angels and demons will fight against each other and interfere in the protagonists' destiny: through adventures, deceptions, and plot twists, will Good prevail over Evil?

A daring and innovative rewriting of *I Promessi Sposi* by Alessandro Manzoni

Giuseppe Roncari born in Milan in 1978, is a writer, translator and editor. He has worked in the production of tv series and as translator for important international co-productions of Lux Vide. He has worked in communication for the Scuola Holden in Turin and for the European Space Agency (ESA). He currently works for the Cambridge University Press as editor for the English language courses.

ENGAGED – the series




Sperling & Kupfer

576 pages
May 2023

SHORTLISTED FOR THE TRE
COLORI 2024 LITERARY
AWARD

FINALIST AT THE PREMIO
ITALIA 2024 AWARD -
FANTASY

ENGAGED 1 The book of Renzo

Lucia and Renzo, two young lovers, are engaged to be married and close to achieving their long-awaited happiness. Little do they know, however, that they are being watched by the angel Mumiah and the demon Belial, who, bored with eternity, bets that he will be able to let Lucia fall into the arms of Don Rodrigo, a local squire, instead of in those of her soul mate. Will Belial succeed in turning the tide of the story? Roncari imagines a further and fantastic temporal plane, in which a struggle for the supremacy on earth is fought and that influences the destinies of Renzo, Lucia, Don Rodrigo, the Bravi, establishing their joys, sorrows and dramas.


Sperling & Kupfer

864 pages
September 2023



ENGAGED 2 The secret of Lucia

At the start it's just a vague feeling, that something is wrong in the ancient, crumbling villa where Letizia will be confined for several days along with Flavio, the solicitor she's working for. The ninety-years-old woman who owned the house has died leaving no heirs and no written will, so a host of distant relatives has crept out of the woodwork to fight tooth and nail over the villa. And everything within it. An ordinary estate dispute, then. But not this time. It's the small details that just don't add up.

MATTEO GRACIS
**TUTTO IL BENE
 DEL MONDO**



**Un viaggio straordinario
 oltre il buio**

Sperling & Kupfer

An amazing adventure to the discovery of a hidden and wonderful humanity - beyond social networks - to reclaim our faith in the world.

A book inspired by actual events



224 pages
 May 2024

Sara is twenty-seven years old, a beautiful girl, healthy and with a normal life. No anomaly in the system, yet something important has short-circuited. Dreams, desires, and the vision of an exciting future gave way to fear and despondency. The weight of a world gone mad and cruel crushes her mercilessly.

"Put on a backpack and go discover the world. Travel slow, far, light."

ALL THE GOOD IN THE WORLD
An extraordinary travel beyond the darkness
Matteo Gracis

Wars, pandemics, natural disasters, crime, pollution - it's one emergency after the other. One could be forgiven for thinking the end is nigh. And Sara is sure of it. So she has given up all hope and dreams. She feels defeated, adrift. Until she starts on a journey with no destination and discovers a world she never knew existed. A world where, for many people and for several different reasons, life was never as good as it is today. Behind the ominous veil of bad news bombarding us every day, we discover - for instance - that in the last twenty years 2 billion people have finally had access to drinking water, that infant mortality has been cut by half, and life expectancy has doubled as compared to just one century ago. Or that 4 out of 5 children worldwide go to school and that education was never as accessible as it is today. We discover major and effective projects to clean up the most polluted rivers on the planet, and that countries all around the world are extending their natural reserves. And Sara will also meet people restoring her - and the reader's - joy of living here and now, providing sound reasons to look at the future with renewed confidence and enthusiasm.

Matteo Gracis (1983) is a journalist, free-thinker, and best-selling author. He is editor-in-chief of the magazine *Dolce Vita* and the founder of the online daily *L'Indipendente*. He is the former communication consultant of an Italian member of Parliament. With over 600,000 followers on social media, Matteo Gracis is a major figure in independent communication.

"Things always only happen when we are ready to receive them."

Foreign rights of Corrado Debiasi books have been sold to:

- BULGARIA
- CZECH REPUBLIC
- FRANCE
- HOLLAND
- POLAND
- PORTUGAL
- SERBIA
- SLOVENIA
- SPAIN
- TURKEY

Corrado Debiasi lives in Trentino. He is a compulsive reader and a scholar of Eastern cultures and yogic philosophy. He has been practicing meditation ever since he was a boy. He loves animals and long walks in nature.

Corrado Debiasi



208 pages
October 2020

An inspirational journey, touching on the deepest values and themes of life with poetry and simplicity..

26 REPRINTS

OVER 87.000
COPIES SOLD

THE MONK WHO LOVED CATS

The seven revelations

When Kripala, the protagonist of this story, sets out on his journey, he has not idea what the future holds in store, but knows what he wants to leave behind - a job he has lost, a love that has ended. His destination is India, where Kripala means to practice yoga and hopes to regain some balance and peace of mind. As soon as he gets there, he gets lost in the narrow alleys of Varanasi. And that is when he begins to find himself. In the vital and sacred heart of the ancient town Kripala will make simple yet extraordinary encounters, meeting people of humble condition but of fathomless wisdom.



320 pages
July 2022

The search of the most precious treasure of all

6 REPRINTS

OVER 30.000
COPIES SOLD



THE VILLAGE OF TIMELESS MONKS

The five awarenesses

It's been a few years since Kripala first traveled to India and experienced his life-altering initiation. Now he needs to go back there – to carry to the Ganges the mortal remains of his beloved, who has recently passed, and to look for his teacher, Tatanji. For in finding his teacher Kripala hopes to also find his lost peace of mind. But at the ashram he is met by chaos and desolation. The old monk has vanished, leaving behind only a blue-eyed grey kitten, and a worn notebook. Kripala will take both on a new journey, seeking for a mythical destination no-one really knows the way to but many hope to reach: «the village of timeless monks». The village where Tatanji was born and the home of keepers of secret teachings passed on for millennia.



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