

# FICTION - RIGHTS LIST

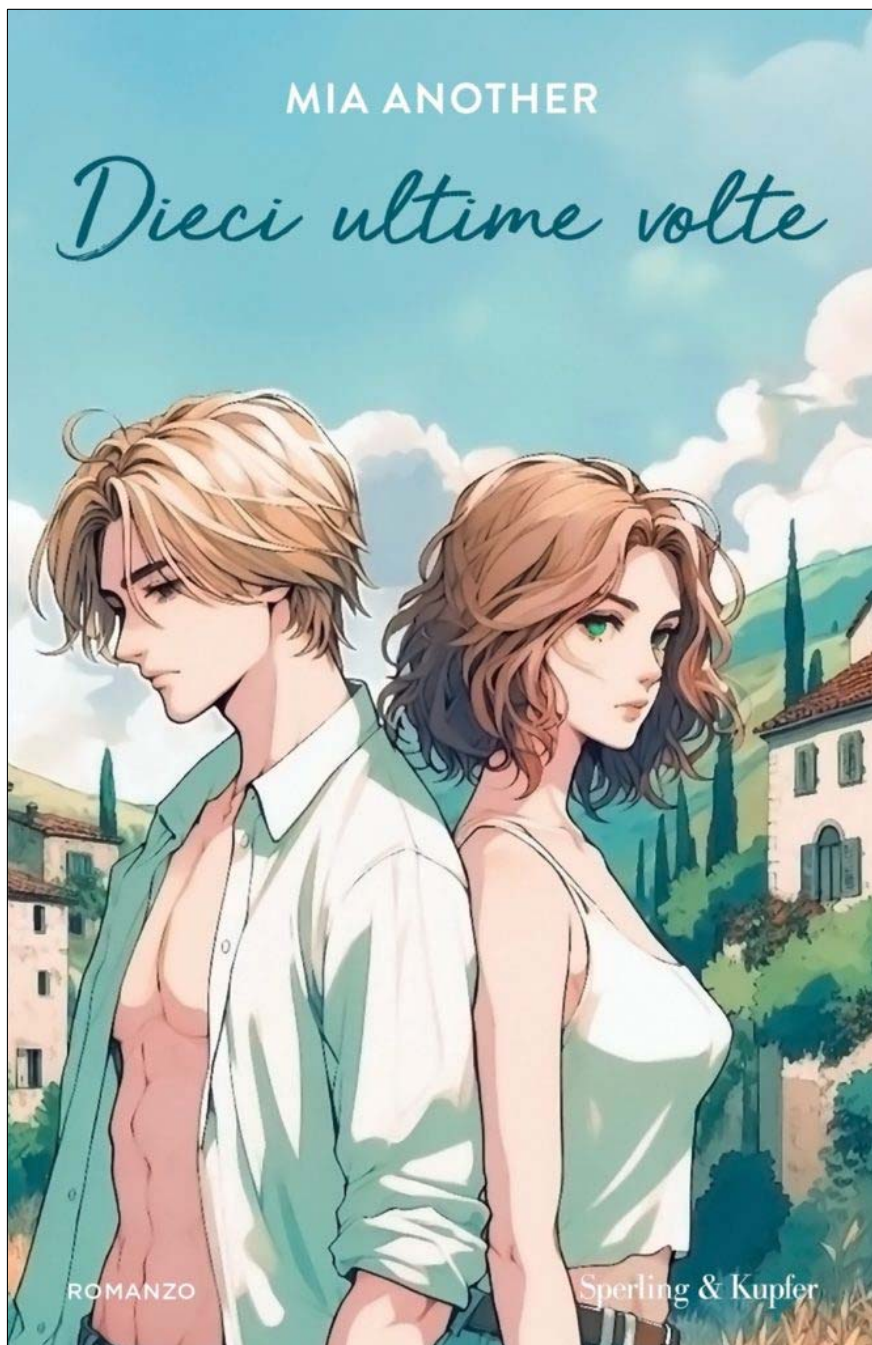
## SPRING 2025

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# FICTION - RIGHTS LIST\_ SPRING\_CONTENTS

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She is searching for her path, but the past still lingers in her heart. He has returned, carrying emotions never forgotten. An encounter that could change them forever... or shatter everything once again.



Sperling & Kupfer

272 pages  
February 2025

**#Second chance**  
**#Friends to lovers**

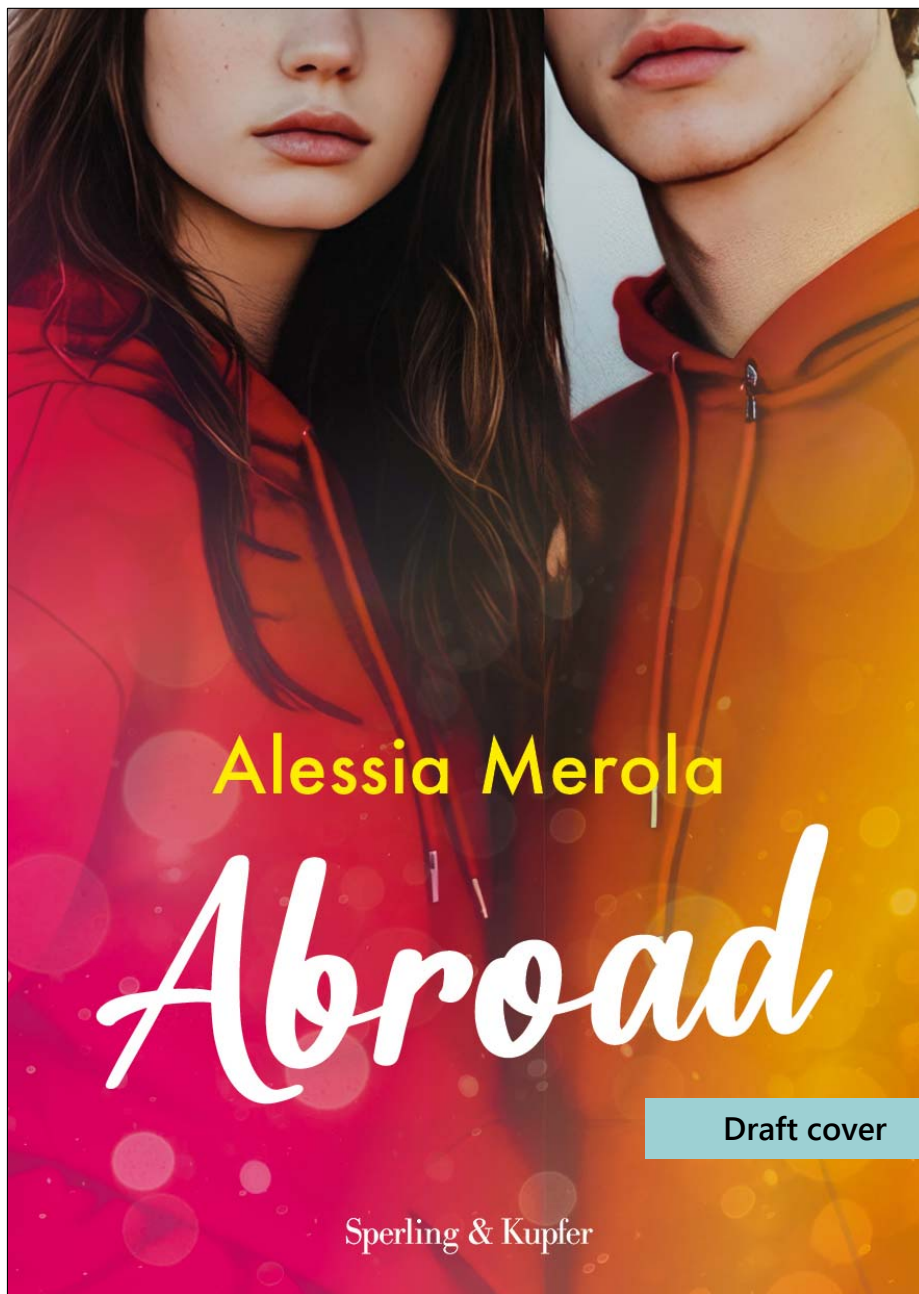
## TEN LAST TIMES

### Mia Another

Every summer, Ede returns to her parents' bed and breakfast in Castelcorvo, a village perched high in the mountains. It has been six years since she last saw Dion, the Italian-Canadian boy she spent almost every summer with since childhood—who has now become a successful writer. Autumn after autumn, Ede has thought of him, never able to forget. He was her first love, an indelible memory, a mark that time could never erase. Now, Dion is back in Castelcorvo, and both must face their past, their memories, their broken dreams, and a love that never truly faded. But this time, things feel different—he is writing a novel about their story, and the emotions they once buried resurface with unexpected force. Torn between the desire to reconnect and the fear of getting hurt again, Ede stands at a crossroads: protect her heart or give Dion a second chance, risking another heartbreak? Yet, when fate threatens to separate them once more, Ede realizes that not everything can be left to chance—and that love needs more than just a perfect ending.

**Mia Another** is the pseudonym of a bestselling Italian author who lives in the Modena region. Writing has always played a central role in her life. She loves animals, video games, technology, and tattoos. She has successfully published *Come petali di ciliegio*, *Tokyo a mezzanotte*, *Una notte di neve a Tokyo*, and *L'amore non è un manga*.

*Ten Last Times* is her first novel published with Sperling & Kupfer.



336 pages  
April 2025

**#Enemies to lovers**

**#Spicy**

## ABROAD

### Alessia Merola

Alice is ready for a fresh start. After the stormy end of her long-term relationship, she decides to embark on an adventure that will change her life: a year of studying overseas.

Football games, beach bonfires, and the warm Florida sun set the scene for a completely unexpected encounter - with Dylan Moore, the mysterious quarterback with piercing hazel eyes, the most sought-after guy in high school.

The attraction between Alice and Dylan is instant, irresistible. But the two couldn't be more different, and their meeting soon turns into a clash.

And - as everyone knows - when two hearts collide, one is always left shattered.

**Alessia Merola** is a TikToker with over one million loyal followers across TikTok and Instagram, where she shares content on various topics—from beauty to fashion, with a touch of lifestyle

Secrets, passions, and difficult choices.  
Love can arrive when you least expect it.



  
Sperling & Kupfer

672 pages  
April 2025

**#Dark Romance**  
**#Enemies to lovers**  
**#Spicy**

## CAIRO

### Noemi C.

Being the stepdaughter of a prominent Manhattan judge isn't exactly thrilling. Avalyne knows this all too well—she spends her days studying, going only to approved places, and socializing with people carefully vetted by her stepfather, under constant surveillance. The truth is, she does everything she can to stay out of trouble, unlike her rebellious sister, Taranee, who makes her life anything but easy. So when Avalyne is forced to retrieve Taranee from a biker bar in the Bronx, her quiet life is thrown into chaos by a tornado named Phoenix Hoffman. Known as Cairo, he is nothing like the guys she's used to — he's dangerously attractive, covered in tattoos, cocky, and completely full of himself. Avalyne is convinced their paths will never cross again, but she underestimates the undeniable pull between them — a force that seems to draw them together, no matter how hard she resists...

**Noemi C.** is the pseudonym of an Italian author born in 2000, known on Wattpad as @eternityhopeless. She was born and raised in Taranto and has been writing for as long as she can remember. She started sharing her stories with the world at the age of fourteen—and she hasn't stopped since. Beyond writing, she loves reading, cooking, and binge-watching movies and TV series.

Over two million reads on Wattpad.  
An intense love story that will steal readers' hearts.



256 pages  
December 2024

## LOVE FOR BEGINNERS

### Sara Del Signore

*Maybe love is the only unexpected twist they hadn't planned for.*

Jane Perez always has everything under control: with her impeccable power suit and a clear list of goals, she already sees herself running the prestigious Wingram Hotel in New York. The city that never sleeps is her home, the place where every dream seems within reach. But fate, as always, has a sense of humor. During the holiday season - which she absolutely dreads - Jane doesn't get the long-awaited promotion. Instead, she finds herself whisked away to snowy Aspen for the opening of a new luxury resort. Between demanding guests, power outages, and endless mishaps, the hotel feels more like a battleground than a stepping stone to success. To make matters worse, there's Colin Kingsbury: a charming New York heir with a cover-model smile and a knack for derailing her carefully laid plans. Cynical about relationships and harboring a secret he has no intention of sharing, Colin has come to Aspen to test the new resort... and perhaps, test Jane too. Amid fiery clashes, unexpected encounters, and a flurry of misunderstandings, Jane and Colin start to realize they might have more in common than they ever imagined. But can they truly set aside their differences and let love catch them by surprise?

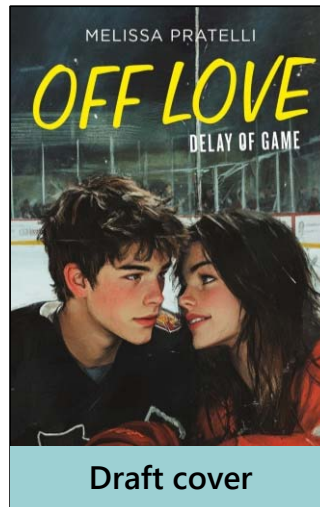
**Sara Del Signore** was born in Rome, where she earned a degree in Sociology with a specialization in Communication and Mass Media. A lifelong writing enthusiast, she turned her passion into a profession, working as a copywriter for major advertising agencies. *Amore per principianti* is her first novel published by Sperling & Kupfer



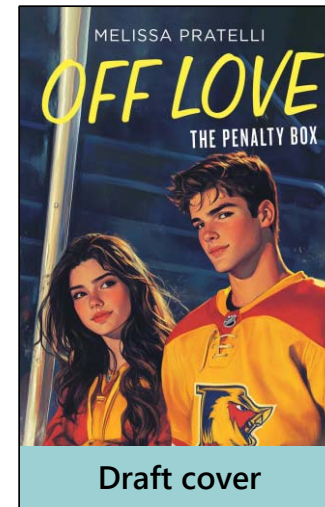
The most hilarious and sparkling romantic comedy of the year Jane is ambitious, organized, and ready to do whatever it takes to achieve success. Colin is charming, irresistible... and the last person she should fall for.

**MISCONDUCT**

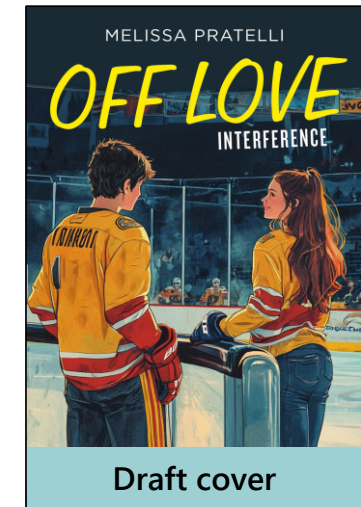
464 pages  
February 2025

**DELAY OF GAME**

416 pages  
March 2025

**THE PENALTY BOX**

400 pages  
April 2025

**INTERFERENCE**

432 pages  
May 2025

Melissa Prатели is originally from Pesaro and earned a degree in Foreign Languages and Literatures from the University of Urbino, never setting aside her passion for reading. A lover of fantasy and romance, she debuted as a romance writer in 2011. With the Off-Love series, she has won over thousands of readers on Amazon

**OFF LOVE 1.** It has been two and a half years since Dominic last spoke to her, yet the sound of his voice still sends shivers down Laney's spine. The captain of Denver University's hockey team, who now strides triumphantly through the campus halls, was once her best friend. And no matter how hard she tries, she can't forget that scorching night they spent together—before he ghosted her without a word. Laney wants to hate him, or at the very least, ignore him. But fate seems determined to make that impossible. When the editor-in-chief of the student newspaper assigns her an article on the college hockey season, the young journalism student finds herself pulled back into his orbit—until she starts to shake his resolve. Will Dominic finally let down his guard?

**OFF LOVE 2.** John Whitman has only a few certainties in life: hockey, the team he plays for as a goalie, and the fact that Brooke Delgado hates him. He has no idea why, he just knows it's true—despite the fact that he's been head over heels for her since high school. Brooke has never been a fan of athletes, especially hockey players. Especially if their name is John Whitman. She can't even stand being around him, no matter how often he somehow ends up in her way. Too bad she hasn't yet realized just how determined John is—to cross the ocean that keeps them apart...

**OFF LOVE 3.** Iris's life was shattered the night she was brutally assaulted, plunging her into darkness. Now, all she wants is to resurface, to reclaim herself, but she can't forget the kind-hearted boy who, on that horrific night, rescued her and took her to the hospital. All she has left of him is a hoodie—and the proof that there is still good in the world. Landon has always believed that the ice and hockey were his true home. At least, until he sees Iris again. He can't bring himself to tell her he was the one who saved her, and no matter how hard he tries to stay away, he never really can...



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.



KISS ME LIKE YOU LOVE ME

World English and World Spanish rights sold

- # Dark Romance
- # Forbidden Love
- # Enemies to lovers
- # Spicy

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.

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



MEET EFREM KRUGHER

- # Dark Romance
- # Forbidden Love
- # Age gap
- # Spicy
- # Forced proximity



De Bellis &amp; Fiorillo

DOVE SI MANGIA  
LA NEBBIAIN PROCURA LA CHIAMANO MOSTRINO  
MA RISOLVE CASI IMPOSSIBILI464 pages  
March 2025

*It was eleven forty-five on a morning that smelled of wet dog. Four floors below, someone pressed the button with her name on it. The doorbell jolted her awake, spilling hot coffee onto her thigh. She cursed. The cane resting against the table slipped to the floor. She cursed again.*

## WHERE THE FOG IS EATEN

## De Bellis &amp; Fiorillo

During a long career as a magistrate, Alida Savich has managed to achieve the difficult feat of making enemies of all her colleagues at the Pavia prosecutor's office. They have nicknamed her *Mostrino* (Little Monster) because she is gruff, irritating, and arrogant—but also brilliant. She is tireless and demands the best from her team. Working with her is a nightmare, but solving a case without her is impossible. She hasn't shown up for work in days. Rumors say she is gravely ill, barely able to stand with the help of a cane, spending her days smoking cigarettes in bed and listening to old classical music records. But a case compels her to return to the prosecutor's office: a motorvan inhabited by a homeless man has exploded in the middle of the night on the banks of the Ticino River, where the fog never lifts. At the crime scene, an old business card belonging to Prosecutor Savich is found—an inexplicable clue, the spark that ignites an investigation leading to a long-forgotten and distant past.

Stefano De Bellis and Edgardo Fiorillo burst onto the contemporary crime fiction scene with a novel that is both sophisticated and fast-paced, driven by unforgettable dialogues and marking the birth of an inimitable character, ironic and full of vices, tragic and deeply human.

Stefano De Bellis and Edgardo Fiorillo have written *Il diritto dei lupi* (2021) and *La stagione delle Erinni* (2023) for Einaudi. *Dove si mangia la nebbia* is the first adventure of Deputy Prosecutor Alida Savich.

The first case of Alida Savic, the investigator everyone calls "The Little Monster". Short, sickly, and with a terrible temper. A true genius of investigation



An unmissable crime debut.  
A relentless investigation beneath Bologna's porticoes  
with glasses of red wine and boardgames.  
A new voice - brilliant and irreverent.



400 pages  
February 2025

## WOLF'S HABIT

### Gianluca Gualducci

Bologna. The life of Lupo, born Gianluca Mannari, is punctuated by precious moments when he manages to forget his demanding and stressful job. In the evenings, he seeks refuge at Tonino's tavern, run by a gruff, hundred-kilo-plus host with a sharp wit and an impressively stocked cellar. On Sunday afternoons, he hides away in a game store, reenacting epic battles with dice alongside a group of more or less grown-up teenagers.

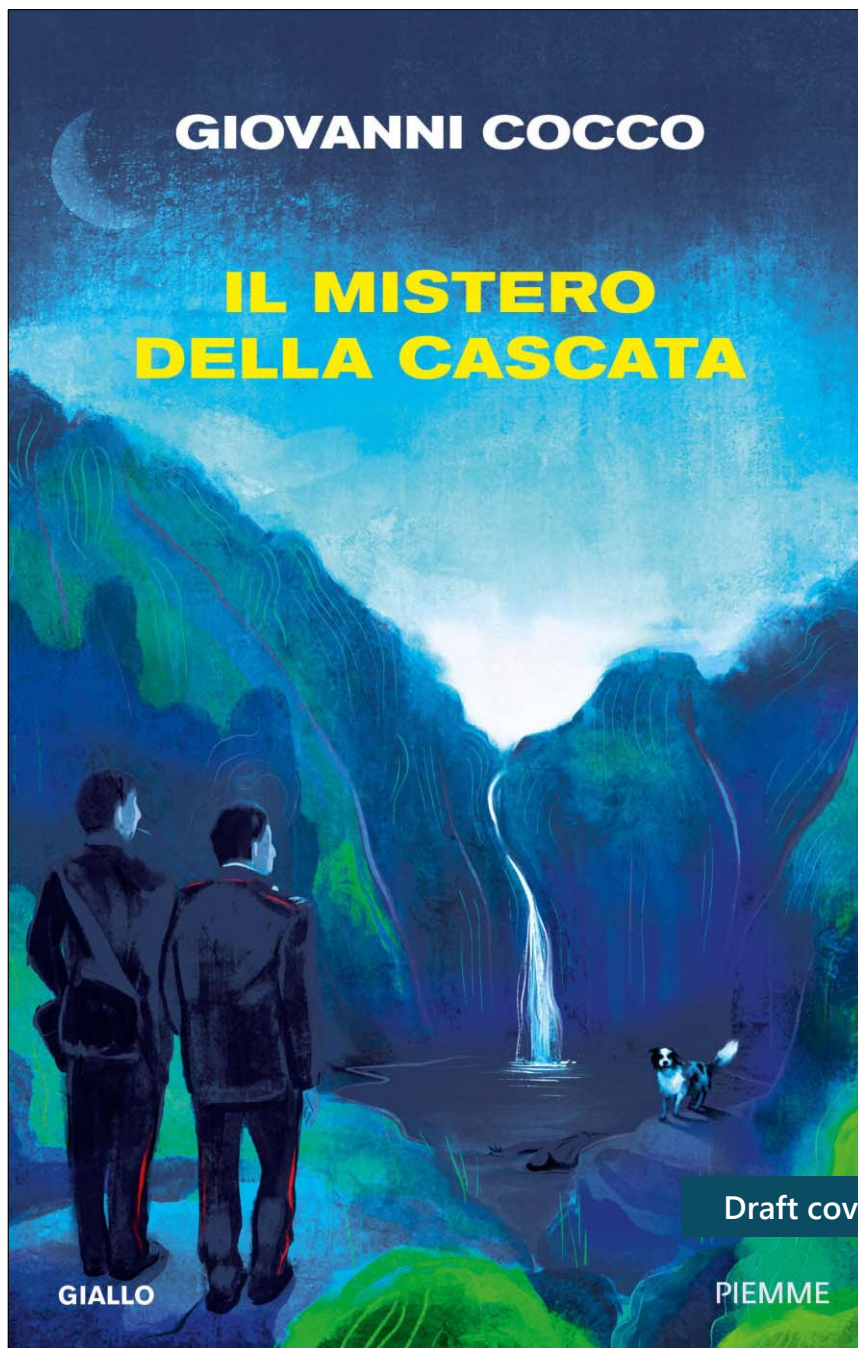
One day, however, the police arrest him outside his office—he is the only suspect in the murder of a local entrepreneur, Glauco Bonazzi, found dead on a rainy night, his body desecrated in a small provincial church. Behind the corpse, in large letters, is the inscription: InferiVoluntas. A chilling coincidence—Lupo himself had come up with that phrase: it was the motto (grammatically incorrect Latin) of the last miniature army he had assembled.

Determined to clear his name, Lupo launches his own investigation, setting off a dangerous game. He soon finds himself drawn to two women: Nina, a young and brooding Tuscan detective back in Bologna seeking personal redemption, and Eva, the victim's sister - stunningly beautiful and razor-sharp in both wit and attitude. Two very different but equally irresistible forces... and two sources of serious trouble.

In his remarkable debut, Gianluca Gualducci introduces himself with a voice that is irreverent, wildly entertaining, yet meticulous in crafting a perfect crime plot. *The Wolf's Vice* is a novel written in a state of grace—both darkly amusing and deeply unsettling, as it explores the deepest recesses of a killer's soul.

**Gianluca Gualducci**, born and raised in Bologna, he spends his working days crunching numbers as a manager in a multinational fashion company and his free time playing with words - especially those that conceal a mystery.

*Wolf's habit* marks his debut in crime fiction.



Draft cover

Alfredo Mantegazza, an irascible yet brilliant commissioner.

A unique and evocative setting near the Como Lake



420 pages  
May 2025

## THE MYSTERY OF THE WATERFALL

Giovanni Cocco

On the shores of Lake Segrino, shrouded in winter fog, a security guard makes a gruesome discovery—a lifeless body floating in the dark, stagnant waters.

The victim is Roberto Riva, a thirty-year-old man and the son of the wealthiest industrialist in the area. With no visible signs of violence, the initial hypothesis is drowning.

The Carabinieri of the Asso station, led by Marshal Alfredo Mantegazza, arrive at the scene. Fifty-five years old, widowed, moody, brilliant, and often irritable, Mantegazza is a detective with a restless mind, perpetually battling his craving for cigarettes despite his doctor's warnings. He is a tired yet genius investigator—an unstoppable bloodhound when it comes to solving mysteries. In recent weeks, Roberto Riva had been making weekly visits to a mysterious waterfall, a place where followers of Laide Frigerio gather. A charismatic mystic, she claims to be a seer and healer. Mantegazza is convinced that something sinister lies behind Riva's death. A young heir to a vast fortune, with a promising career and a seemingly perfect life, had no reason to take his own life. Determined to uncover the truth, Mantegazza delves into an investigation that will shake the illusion of peace in the province—an illusion that, perhaps, was never real to begin with.

**Giovanni Cocco**, Born in Como in 1976, he has published *La Caduta* (Nutrimenti, 2013, finalist for the Campiello Prize – Jury Selection), *Il bacio dell'Assunta* (Feltrinelli, 2014), and *La promessa* (Nutrimenti, 2015). He is also the co-author, together with Amneris Magella, of the successful crime series featuring Commissioner Stefania Valenti (*Ombre sul lago*, *La ballata di un uomo solo*, *Morte a Bellagio*, *La sposa nel lago*, *Nessuno sarà dimenticato*, *Omicidio al faro*), published in Italy by Marsilio and translated into major European languages. *The Mystery of the Waterfall* is the first novel featuring Alfredo Mantegazza as the protagonist.



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 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 ransom 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 Puscaddu 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.

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

A series with over 20.000 copies sold!

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 one more is to come.



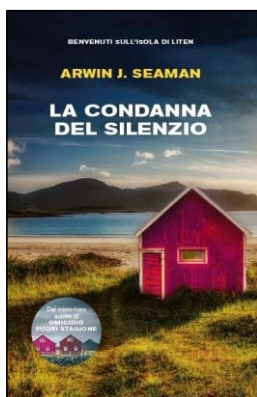
## OFF-SEASON MURDER

384 pages  
March 2023



## A DAY OF APPARENT CALM

336 pages  
March 2024



## THE CURSE OF SILENCE

460 pages  
March 2025

«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.

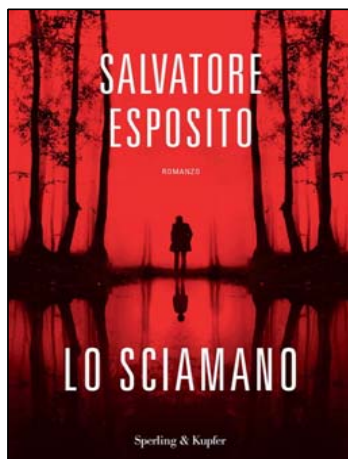
Suddenly, Liten has found itself besieged by tourists. The case of the three girls found murdered in the volcanic lake has drawn crowds of people to the remote island and its dark charms. The life of the islanders, not used to the spotlight, is disrupted. Malin Dahlberg, the daughter of the chief of 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.

The island of Liten has fallen into disgrace. After the media chaos of the previous year, the regular tourists, resigned to the idea that they had lost their peaceful retreat, abandoned it. Even the morbid curiosity of new visitors soon faded. The news of a young woman's disappearance—who never returned home but apparently never left the island either—thus takes a back seat. The Malmö police close the case as a voluntary disappearance, while online speculation suggests it is nothing more than a pathetic attempt to bring Liten back into the spotlight. Owe, Annelie, and Kaj find themselves investigating without any help. Stepping in are the Anderssons, the island's most influential family, eager to "wash away the shame" of having a murderer among them. However, the clues that emerge suggest a real kidnapping...



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”



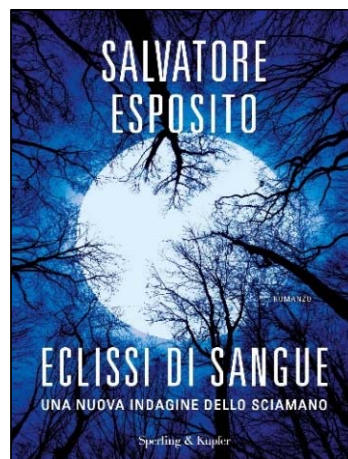
### THE SHAMAN

336 pages  
June 2021

English excerpt available

Foreign rights sold to:  
**FRANCE**

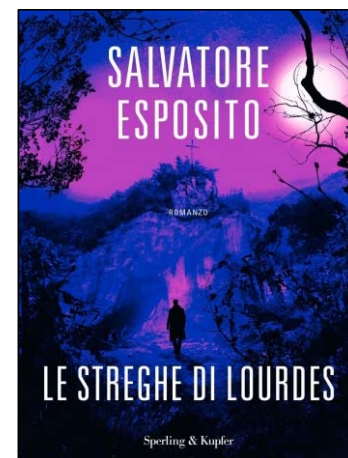
Christian Costa is a profiler with a special expertise on ritual killings. The Interpol, the FBI, Scotland Yard - there's not a police department or major crime squad where he hasn't been called upon at least once. He has become known as the Shaman because of his unorthodox methods on scenes of the crime 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

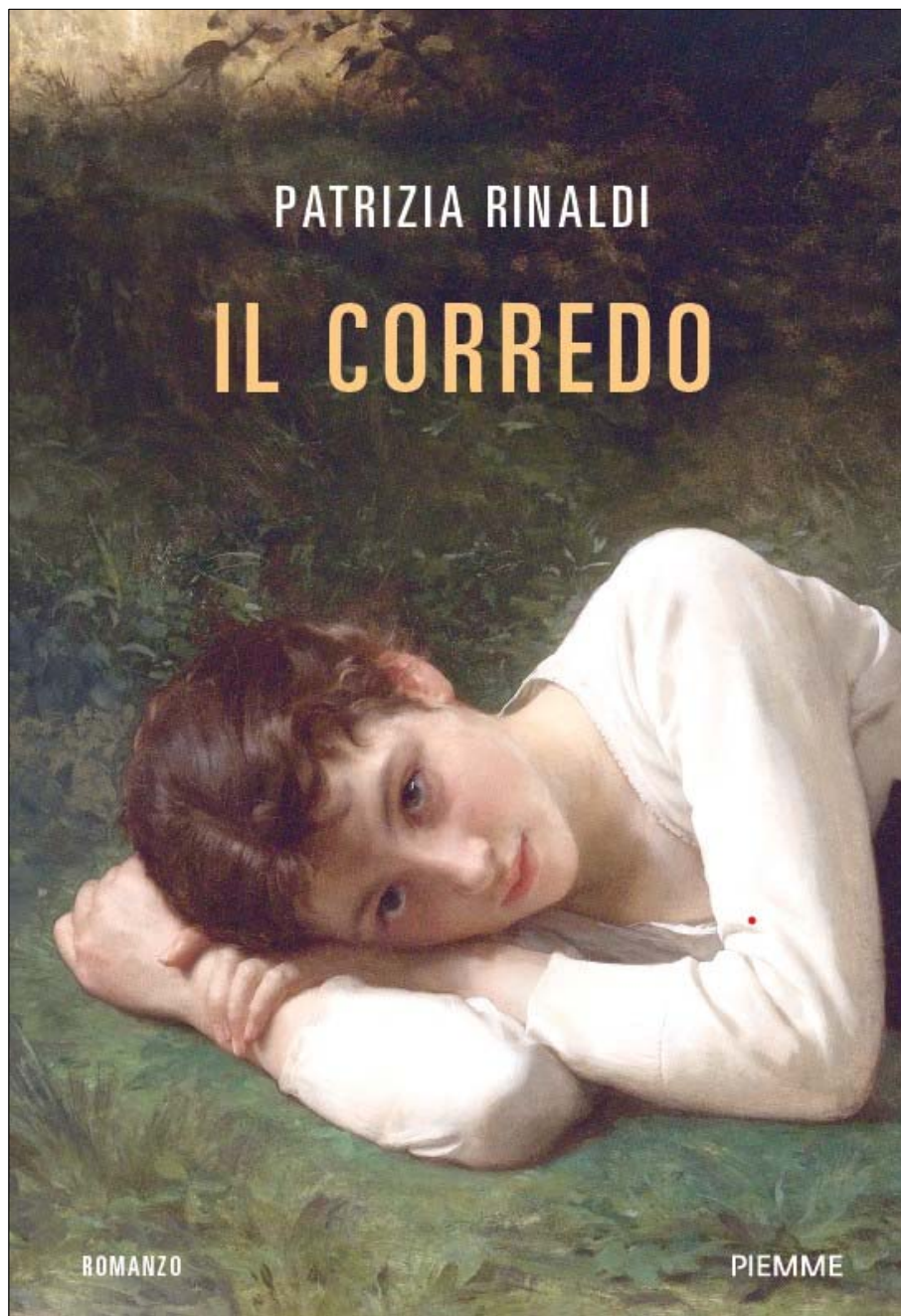
Stepping out of the airport, Christian Costa finds a black sedan from Policía Judicial de A Coruña waiting for him. A new victim has just been added to the thick file of the investigation: Telma Queiroz Duarte, 24. Her throat has been cut, but before her death the killer had butchered her, inflicting 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 tale from another time that enchants  
like a fairy tale



256 pages  
February 2025

## THE DOWRY

### Patrizia Rinaldi

Late 18th Century. The palace of Capa Guasta reflects its granite face onto the abyss of the sea. Behind it, dense vegetation keeps unwanted guests at bay. This is the residence of Marquis Saverio, a capricious and wealthy nobleman who has spent his life trying to escape the affliction that has driven almost all his ancestors mad. His small fiefdom is ruled by Lauretana, a sorceress he encountered during a journey. It was she who convinced him that the only way to elude the disease was to isolate himself and unite only with virgins. For this reason, the estate is renowned for its generous welcome of young women from distant lands. Altagracia Valiago, a stunning gypsy with dark eyes, flees from a violent husband and arrives at Saverio's court with forged documents, securing the asylum she so desperately seeks. Her presence shatters the fragile equilibrium: the Marquis falls madly in love with her, and Lauretana, seeing her undisputed control threatened, begins to harbor a relentless hatred. Thus, a fierce battle is born: the two women reach into each other's dowries, trunks brimming with treasures and long-buried secrets. Patrizia Rinaldi, a master of genre fiction, crafts a historical novel with a fairy-tale allure, set in a Campanian fief at the turn of a lesser-known century. A story that teaches how love is an untamable force—one that can dismantle hierarchies of power and plunge entire kingdoms into chaos.

Patrizia Rinaldi was born in Naples in 1960. With a degree in philosophy and a specialization in playwriting, she is the author of the successful crime series Blanca, published by Edizioni e/o, and the Signora series, published by Rizzoli. Since 2010, she has been involved in literary projects at the Nisida Juvenile Detention Center.

*Il Corredo* marks her first, deeply personal venture into historical fiction.





Draft cover

Turin, early 20th century, an industrial worker's family moves from the countryside to the city.  
A tale of love and resilience



352 pages  
May 2025

## THOSE WHO LEAVE AND THOSE WHO STAY

**Valeria Gallina**

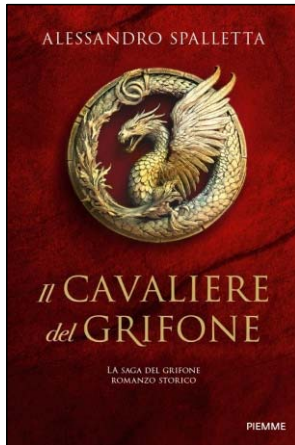
In 1910, Caterina, a widow, moves with her three children from Moncalieri to Turin in search of a better future. The city, bustling with excitement for the International Exhibition, offers new opportunities: Giulia finds work in a chocolate factory and falls in love with Gianni, the son of Monsù Mario, the factory foreman; Angelo, defying his mother's wishes, follows his passion for cinema and gets a job as a wardrobe assistant at Itala Film; meanwhile, Caterina begins working alongside Adele, a flamboyant and eccentric seamstress. But with the outbreak of World War I, life changes dramatically, and the family is forced to navigate the hardships of a city transformed by war. With the elegance of a true storyteller, Valeria Gallina draws from her own family history to paint a portrait of Italy's working class—resilient, determined, and full of life. Giulia and her siblings move through early 20th-century Turin, pulling the reader into a heartfelt and captivating family saga: a tenement house adorned with wisteria, a chocolate factory, the late-blooming love for Giuseppe, a lifelong friend, and a vision of family and society as a collective, shared experience.

**Valeria Gallina** is a partner in an accounting firm. She lives in Turin with her son and her three cats.

A great medieval historical novel of forbidden love and dreams of power.

A trilogy that blends the power of history with the allure of its figures, delivering an unforgettable adventure of heroism, sacrifice, and ambition.

Alessandro Spalletta was born in Grosseto in 1988 and grew up in the Tuscan Maremma. He lived for five years in Viterbo, where he earned a degree in English Literature from the University of Tuscia in 2013. From 2018 to 2022, he self-published four medieval historical novels, achieving great public success.



## THE GRIFFIN KNIGHT

320 pages  
April 2025

Siena, 1298. Elena Bonsignori is the most beautiful lady of the Republic. With long black hair, deep green eyes like the clear waters of a lake, and the sinuous body of a goddess, she is the one who will award the winner of the tournament her brother Filippo has organized in Piazza del Campo—a grand display of the family's wealth. The Bonsignori, shrewd and intelligent bankers, are rising ever higher in influence. Yet, against all odds, the knight who stands out among the competitors is not a noble from a powerful house but a young man from a provincial lineage: Bino degli Abati del Malia, a cadet son and valiant knight, who sweeps away his rivals with bold strokes of his sword. He is madly in love with Elena and is determined to prove his worth to her. But Bino, a simple man with little experience, does not yet realize that fate is pulling him by the chainmail collar, calling him to stand against the rise of Filippo, who is ready to seize a power that does not rightfully belong to him.



## THE SWORD AND THE GRIFFIN

320 pages  
June 2025

1312. Central Italy is in the crosshairs of the Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, whose invincible legions have already conquered the North and now threaten to lay waste to all of Tuscany. The Guelph cities, divided and weakened by internal rivalries, seem powerless to stop him. Their only hope for salvation lies in an unexpected alliance between old enemies. Siena and Grosseto, under the aegis of the Medici, are forced to unite to face the imperial onslaught. But the shadow of betrayal and deceit looms large, and the path to collaboration is anything but easy. Filippo Bonsignori and Bino degli Abati del Malia, locked in a conflict rooted in ancient rivalries, must set aside their hostilities and fight side by side against the greatest military leaders of their time. Through epic battles, political intrigue, and a gripping web of loyalty and deception, *The Sword and the Griffin* tells the story of an alliance as fragile as it is vital—one that will shape a new chapter in the history of Tuscany.

Alessandro Spalletta

## THE FLIGHT OF THE GRIFFIN

320 pages  
September 2025

THE FLIGHT of  
the GRIFFIN



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.



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.



  
Sperling & Kupfer

288 pages  
November 2024

## THE MAN WHO WANTED TO UNDERSTAND LOVE

### Francesco Sole

*The new novel  
by best-selling  
author  
Francesco  
Sole:  
«A dreamer  
for dreamers»*

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

Can two lives that have been intertwined through love come apart again, as if nothing had happened? This is what Marco Boneri, an esteemed professor of philosophy, asks himself when he decides to teach a course on Love. The feeling he experienced only once, when he met Sara. Theirs was a chance meeting, in a hotel in Porto, one day in mid-March. Neither of them felt ready to fall in love: he was a young academic with his head lost in his books; she was a strong-willed career woman with a resistance to stable relationships. Yet the attraction between them was immediate and irresistible. Sara and Marco suddenly became the protagonists of a Great Love Story. It seems like the beginning of a fairy tale until, one day, Marco reads an email on Sara's computer and a terrible suspicion creeps between them. Does he really know the woman he loves? From that moment everything plunges into a whirlpool of doubt, resentment and misunderstanding. But can a relationship end like that? Is it possible to rewind the thread of time and go back to being perfect strangers? One wrong choice after another, lesson after lesson, Marco finds himself questioning everything he thought he knew about love. For there are truths that even the greatest philosophers cannot teach us, and there are questions that only the heart can answer. Eleven unforgettable lessons that speak to the heart of all who wish to understand love.

Just like wine, love can't be measured by the time that passes but by the taste it leaves behind. A month with the right person is worth more than years spent with someone who never knew how to overwhelm your heart.

**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), *La storia d'amore che ti cambierà la vita* (2022), and *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  
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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?



  
Sperling & Kupfer

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



## 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  
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Foreign rights  
sold to:  
PORTUGAL  
EGYPT



2017 - 196 pages



2019 - 240 pages



2021 - 304 pages



2023 - 320 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.



**MARGHERITA  
PONTECORVO**  
@pitta



Sperling & Kupfer

Draft cover

  
Sperling & Kupfer

192 pages  
April 2025

## **ALL BECAUSE OF AN INFLUENCER** **Margherita Pontecorvo**

After graduating with a degree in Literature, Clara finds herself facing the harsh reality of the job market—publishing houses seem impenetrable, and her literary ambitions feel more distant than ever. When she finally lands an internship at one of the biggest publishing companies, she feels relieved, but her excitement is soon challenged by Mia—a brilliant and charismatic influencer whom she has been assigned to assist in the creation of a book. Mia represents everything Clara despises: superficiality, easy success, and wealth without struggle. Yet, as the two navigate sharp banter and moments of vulnerability, Clara begins to see beyond Mia’s perfectly curated image—discovering a woman who fights every day to stay true to herself in a fleeting, fast-paced world. At the same time, Mia is struck by Clara’s passion for literature and her relentless determination.

Two worlds that seem irreconcilable collide—only to explode into a genuine friendship that shatters every preconception.

An unforgettable story of personal growth and friendship, full of irony and sarcasm.

**Margherita Pontecorvo** 23 years old, a Roman now living in Milan. With her loyal companion Buck (a little dog) by her side, she explores cities and mountains with a contagious smile. A passionate lover of nature, travel, languages, and cultures, her curiosity constantly drives her toward new trends. With her unique sense of humor, she brings smiles and inspiration to every post she shares.



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

A stack of books in front of a closed door.

A pain that won't go away.

A story of rebirth through literature



  
Sperling & Kupfer

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

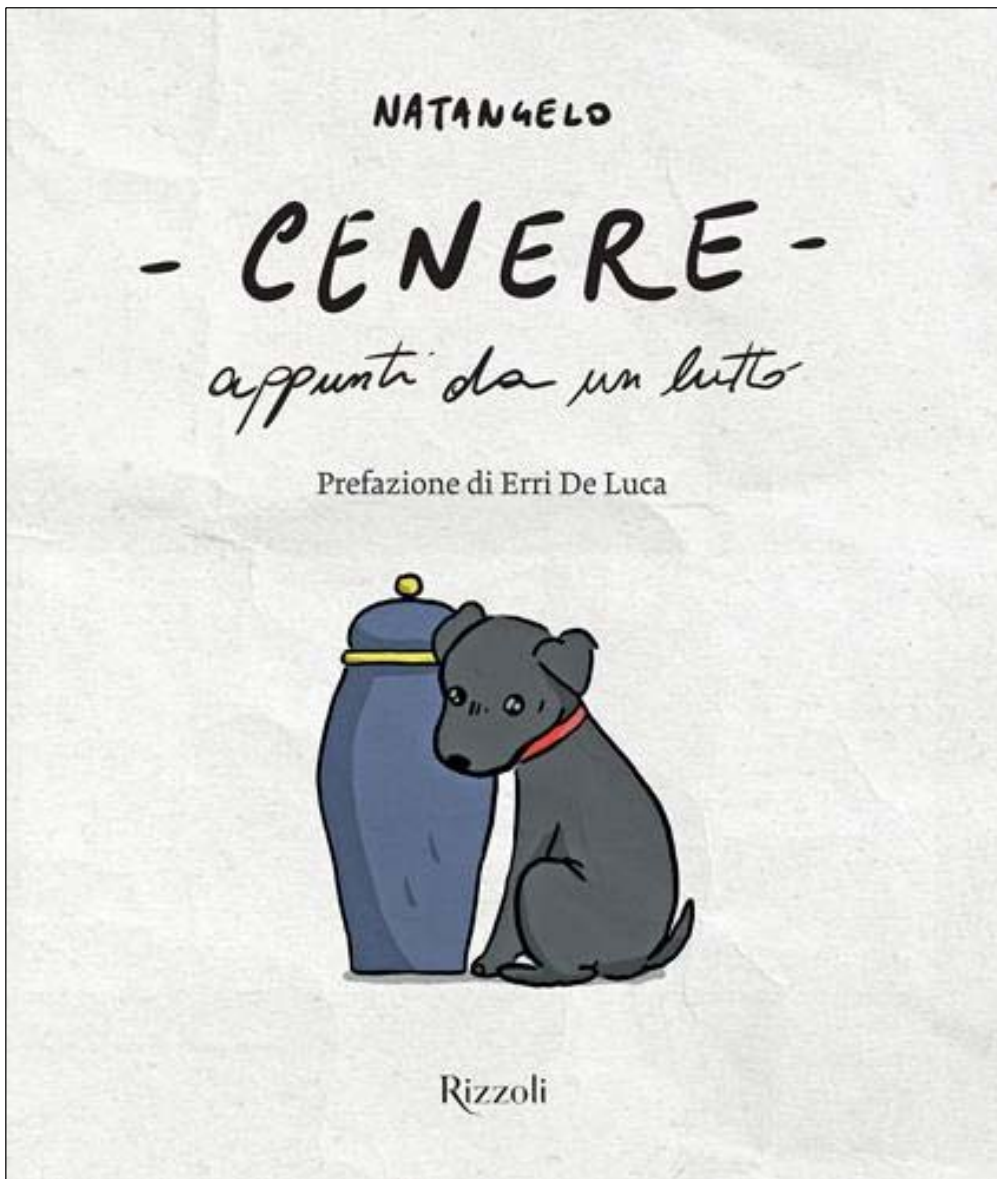
### Giuseppe Isoni

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.

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

A wonderful story of friendship

**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.



MONDADORI  
ELECTA

144 pages  
March 2024

## ASHES

### Notes from a grief Natangelo

"Every time I've drawn a satirical cartoon about some tragedy involving the dead, there was always some fool who would indignantly shout: «What if it were your own family member? Would you make a cartoon about that?» Well, now I can finally answer that question - and the answer is this book".

Can one joke about one of the most devastating losses - the death of a parent? In the aftermath of his mother's passing, Natangelo - a satirical cartoonist known for his sharp humor and frequent controversies - turns the weapons of irony on himself and begins sharing an online comic diary. He draws, he narrates, he tries to process his grief one panel at a time, one strip at a time. What emerges is a bittersweet and deeply personal journey, weaving fragments of past and present into a story that is at once tender and painful, intimate and everyday. Without ever abandoning sarcasm and comedy, he explores loss and absence in a way that is both raw and relatable. Meanwhile, his professional life is thrown into chaos by a grotesque political trial, which collides with his personal tragedy, creating a darkly comic whirlwind of absurdity and sorrow.

**Mario Natangelo** was born in Naples in December 1985. A professional journalist, he made his debut as a satirical cartoonist in 2007 with *l'Unità*. Since the very first issue in September 2009, he has been drawing daily for «*il Fatto Quotidiano*» and has also collaborated for several years with «*Linus*» and *Smemoranda*. Considered one of the sharpest satirical cartoonists around, he has been awarded the Forte dei Marmi International Prize for Political Satire twice. He currently lives in Rome, where he is sometimes seen wandering around with a bad-tempered dog.

***Nothing is funnier than unhappiness* wrote Samuel Beckett, and in this story, Natangelo proves it—turning his own sorrow into the an hilarious, ruthless, and tragic poem.**

**He shows us, with unwavering honesty, that laughter truly is the best cure for a bleeding heart.**



**Giulia Rosa and Michele Mezzanotte take us by the hand through an intense inner journey, at times dark, leading us to the destination of learning to love and forgive ourselves once again.**

**MONDADORI**  
ELECTA

160 pages  
November  
2024

## FRAGMENTS OF A SOUL

### When you let go, you discover who you are.

**Giulia Rosa, Michele Mezzanotte**

"Every tear tells a story. The hardest battle is the one we fight with ourselves".

A journey of discovery and inner revolution, this graphic novel explores fragility and rebirth.

What suffocates Carlotta's soul, driving her deeper into a dark world devoid of feelings?

A refuge where pain cannot reach her but where joy is also absent. The apathy of days blending into one another pushes her further into despair, making her question her relationship with Marco, her loved ones, and ultimately, herself. Only after hitting rock bottom Carlotta decides to stop merely surviving and start truly living. To do so, she must confront her fears, her demons, and the memories of a past she had tried to forget. The journey will not be easy, but Carlotta will discover that to "play at life," all emotions are essential—even the ones that hurt.

**Giulia Rosa** is an illustrator and artist, she has collaborated with all major publishing houses, both in Italy and abroad. Hugely popular on the web for her sensitive and poetic drawings, she has a passion for astrology and the way the planets and the stars can influence our psychological makeup.

**Michele Mezzanotte**, a therapist and divulgator, was born in 1984 in Chieti, where he lives and works. In 2012 he cofounded the first online magazine on archetypal psychology, *L'Anima Fa Arte*, which then became the blog by the same name. Since 2020 he is been involved in raising awareness on psychological disorders through his media channels. With Sperling & Kupfer has published two best-sellers, *Il vero amore (non) è un mito* and *La felicità (non) è un mito*.



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