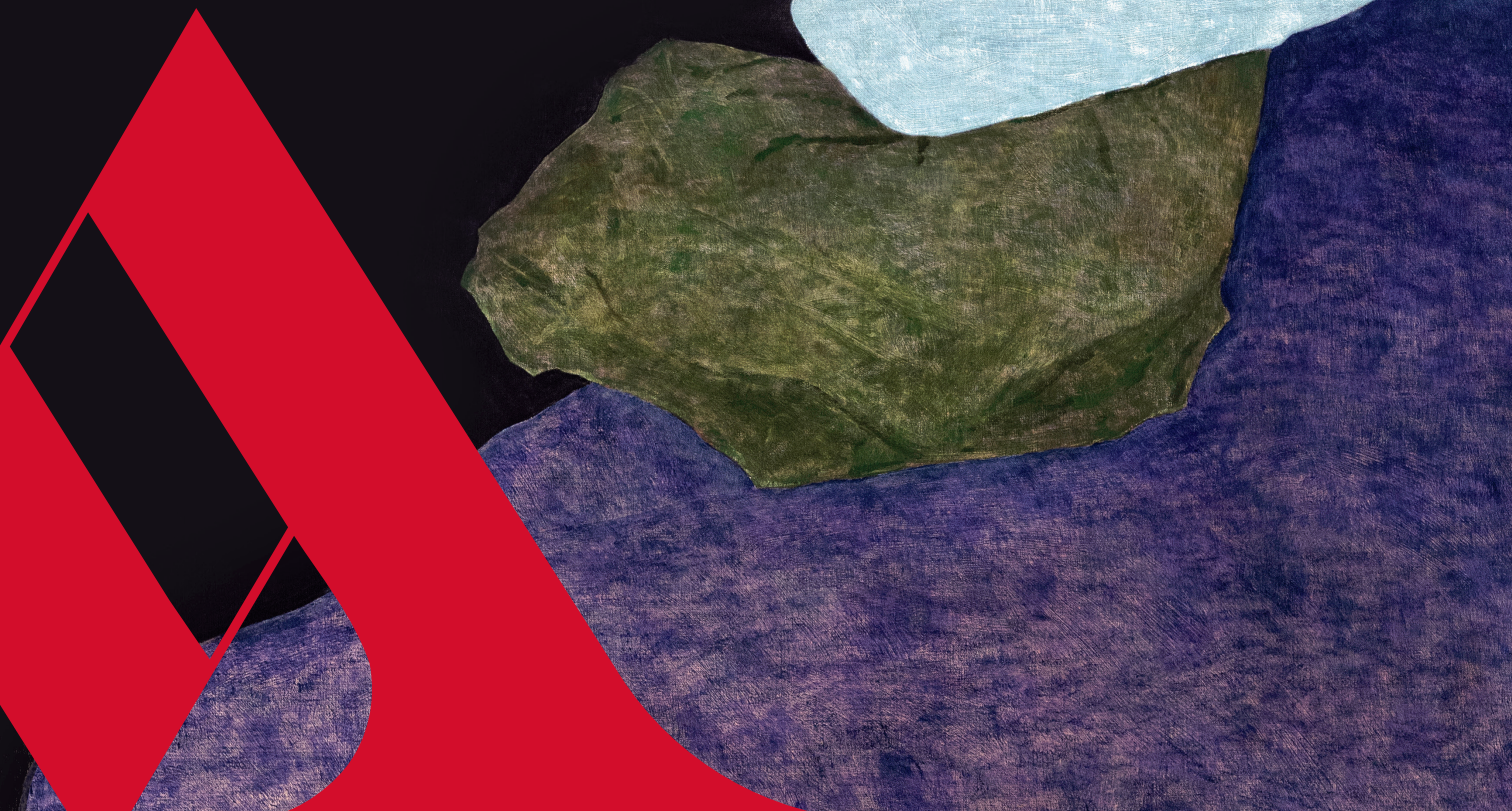


MONDADORI

# Fall Rights List 2024



# Index

Al-Ajrami Sami	<i>The House Keys</i>	40
Alliata Paolo	<i>The Human Adventure</i>	50
Aloisi Maria Elisa	<i>I Am Lying</i>	33
Arena Giovanni	<i>The Time of a Candle</i>	31
Banti Anna	<i>Golden Flies</i>	24
Barbascura X	<i>The Scientific Satyr 4</i>	60
Bollani Stefano	<i>The Time Of Extravagence</i>	57
Buffon Gianluigi	<i>Saved</i>	54
Busi Giulio	<i>John</i>	48
Carrisi Albano	<i>The Sun Within</i>	56
Cavarero Adriana, Guaraldo Olivia	<i>Born Woman</i>	46
Cenni Aura, Donati Lorenzo	<i>Every Love Story is an Ending</i>	28
Cibrario Benedetta	<i>The Many Human Things</i>	18
Costa Gian Mauro	<i>The Archangels' Lies</i>	34
D'Urbano Valentina	<i>Daughter of the Storm</i>	10
de Céspedes Alba	<i>It's a Woman Who Speaks to You Tonight</i>	20
De Luca Nora	<i>Other People's Children</i>	30
Ferrari Aldo	<i>Russia</i>	49
Fruttero Carlotta	<i>Alice Still Doesn't Know</i>	26
Gallavotti Barbara	<i>The Future Is Already Here</i>	53
Giannone Alberto, Fadel Matteo	<i>Quantum Everything</i>	61



Lovecraft H. P.	<i>Atlas of the Dreamlands</i>	37
Manzini Gianna	<i>Full-Length Portrait</i>	25
Mencarelli Daniele	<i>The Burning Origin</i>	6
Missiroli Antonio	<i>Europe's Defense</i>	44
Murgia Michela, Tagliaferri Chiara	<i>Morgana</i>	45
Nori Paolo	<i>I Close the Door and Scream</i>	14
Oliva Gianni	<i>The Walnut Slope</i>	27
Olivieri Claudio	<i>What They Don't Tell Mothers</i>	59
Pesce Nicola	<i>The Library of Forgotten Books</i>	35
Pieranni Simone	<i>2100</i>	42
Pola Andrea	<i>Energy from the Nucleus</i>	51
Rampini Federico	<i>Thank You, West!</i>	43
Ricordi Camillo	<i>Therapeutic Revolution</i>	58
Roghi Vanessa	<i>The Word Feminist</i>	47
Trono del Muori	<i>All Heroes Must Die</i>	36
Varesi Valerio	<i>Lapses in Memory</i>	32
Ventrella Rosa	<i>The Short Seasons</i>	29
Vespa Bruno	<i>Hitler and Mussolini</i>	52
Vitale Edoardo	<i>The Extraordinary Ones</i>	16
Volo Fabio	<i>We Will Dance to the Music They Play</i>	55
Zecchi Stefano	<i>Resurrection</i>	19





# Literary Fiction

“ What remains of what we experienced?  
The memory.  
And the pain we feel when  
we recall it: the nostalgia. ”

*Daniele Mencarelli*

The poetic attention to language and the power of feelings find an astonishing clarity in this fast-paced novel. Mencarelli presents a thrilling picture, a slice of life from a neighborhood in the outskirts of Rome, concrete and existential. A protagonist who cultivates the desire to express himself that is never satisfied, a need to belong that can't come to fruition.



DANIELE MENCARELLI

## The Burning Origin

After years away, Gabriele returns home to find himself torn between the life he built and the one he left behind.

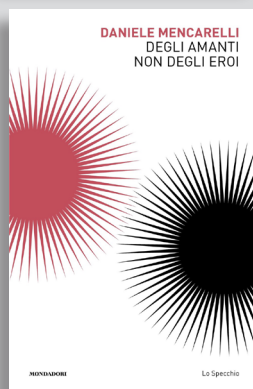
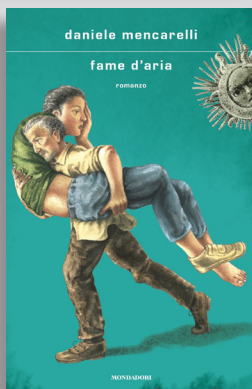
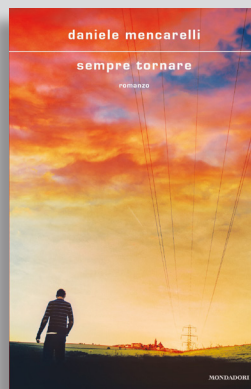
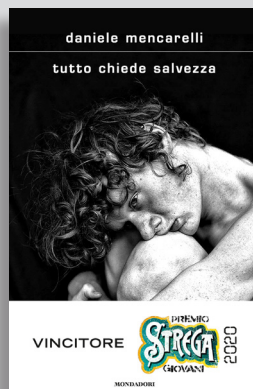


PP. 192

PUBLICATION: OCTOBER 2024

Gabriele Bilancini hasn't returned home in eight years. Home is the Tuscolano neighborhood in Rome: he was born and grew up there with his parents, his sister, and an inseparable group of friends. Gabriele now lives in Milan and is one of the top ten designers in the world. He is one of the ones who made it: the perfect embodiment of the "self-made man" myth. Gabriele's life transformed itself, running at a hectic pace fueled by adrenaline and studded with satisfactions, including meeting and falling in love with Camilla. And now, for the first time, he returns home. Everything has remained the same back at home, as if time had stopped: the same habits, the same days (but with work instead of school) that end up at the tables of Sor Antonio's bar. The hug in which his family and lifelong friends embrace him is the sweetest thing ever, while also being the most suffocating: it forces him to acknowledge the fracture that lives within him. The excruciating nostalgia, the guilt, the estrangement from his old world from which he came, equal only to the alienation he feels in his new one. What always pushed Gabriele to design was a real burning passion, on which he wagered everything, coming out as a winner. And yet, once he achieves his dream, it doesn't bring him the happiness he expected.

**DANIELE MENCARELLI** was born in Rome in 1974. His second novel *Tutto chiede salvezza* (*Everything Calls for Salvation*) was published in 2019; it received the Premio Strega Giovani, it was translated in nine countries and was adapted into a Netflix TV series that was released in October 2022. *Sempre tornare*, published in 2021, concluded his ideal autobiographical trilogy and received the Premio Flaiano 2022.



## BACKLIST

*La casa degli sguardi* - 2018

*Tutto chiede salvezza* - 2020

*Sempre tornare* - 2021

*Fame d'aria* - 2023

*Degli amanti non degli eroi* - 2024

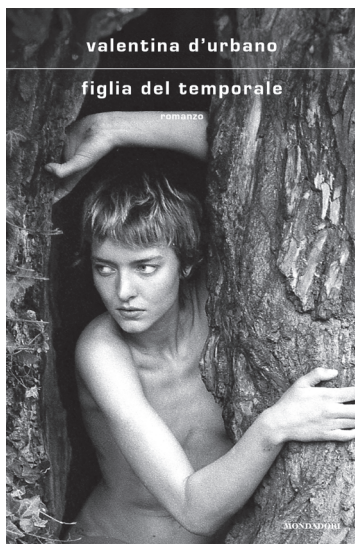


Valentina D'Urbano constructs a captivating story that revolves around a woman's body and society's attempt to control it. The tale of a "sworn virgin," a woman who chooses to live as a man to escape her sealed fate. A universal and very topical reflection on negating a woman her body and her desire.

VALENTINA D'URBANO

## Daughter of the Storm

In a society that controls women's bodies, Hira renounces her identity, becoming a sworn virgin to escape her fate.



PP. 312

PUBLICATION: SEPTEMBER 2024

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

We are in communist Albania in the Seventies. Hira grew up in Tirana and, after being orphaned, she is taken in by her uncle and his family. They live in the mountains in the northern part of the country in a small community of farmers where neither modernity nor communism seem to have arrived. Hira slowly adapts to her new life made of chores outdoors, forbidden walks, and silent conversations with Astrit. Her cousin, in fact, hasn't spoken for many years. He expresses himself through gestures, which is why everyone in the village considers him strange, a sort of wild animal. But Astrit and Hira find a secret language of their own to understand one another and, as they grow up, their relationship turns into something new and dangerous. Not just because they are cousins, but because a marriage is imposed on her by traditional Albanian codes. The only way to escape an arranged marriage is to become a *burrnesh*, a "sworn virgin": she must give up her female identity and live like a man, taking on all the responsibilities it entails, but also all the freedoms reserved to men. And so, at the age of twenty, Hira becomes Mael: she dresses like a man, works like a man, and, like every *burrnesh*, she is forbidden from having any romantic relationship. But her feelings and Astrit's don't change.

**VALENTINA D'URBANO** made her literary debut in 2012 with *Il rumore dei tuoi passi*, followed by *Acquanera* (2013), *Quella vita che ci manca* (2014), *Alfredo* (2015), *Non aspettare la notte* (2016), and *Isola di Neve* (2018), all published by Longanesi. In 2021, Mondadori published her book *Tre gocce d'acqua*. Her novels have been translated in many countries and received several literary awards, including the Premio Rapallo Carige, the Premio Stresa, the Prix Cezam, and the Premio Wondy.

## BACKLIST

# Three Drops of Water

Connected by a shared brother, Celeste and Nadir's fragile rivalry turns into a hidden bond that will haunt them for years.

Celeste and Nadir are not siblings, they are not related by blood, yet they are bound by an inescapable connection. Tying them together is Pietro, Celeste's half-brother through her father and Nadir's half-brother through his mother. Pietro, ten years older, splits his time between the two families, and both younger siblings adore him. Celeste is with him when she first breaks her foot in an innocent jump. Soon after, she breaks her fingers and then her wrist, discovering she has a genetic condition that makes her bones as fragile as glass. Another event disrupts her childhood: meeting Nadir, her brother's brother, whom she had only known by name. Nadir is harsh and rough, and a fierce jealousy grows between them over their brother's love, who, caught up in his studies and politics, has little time for them. The rivalry slowly transforms into a strange attraction and mutual dependence, a secret bond that will shape the next twenty-five years of their lives. When Pietro disappears during a trip to Syria, the fragile balance of their relationship is at risk of collapsing. With *Tre gocce d'acqua*, Valentina D'Urbano explores the fragility of the body and the undefinable power of certain ties, like the one between Celeste and Nadir, who, though nameless in the Italian language, becomes everything in this story.



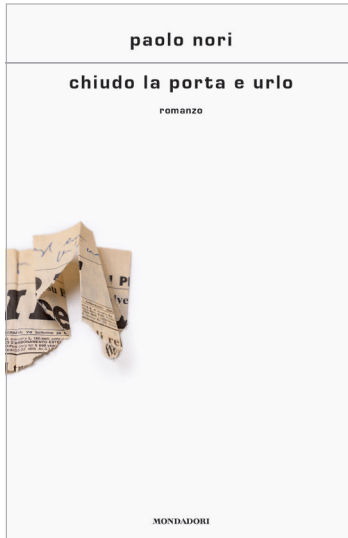
PP. 372

PUBLICATION: JUNE 2021

PAOLO NORI

## I Close the Door and Scream

Paolo Nori brings to life Raffaello Baldini, one of the greatest 20th-century Italian poets, blending his Romagna with Bulgakov's Moscow.



PP. 240

PUBLICATION: **NOVEMBER 2024**

There are verses by Cesare Pavese that stuck in Paolo Nori's memory: "Stunned by the world, I reached an age when I threw punches at air and cried to myself." They stuck with him and made him want to be in that condition. "But who do you think you are?" he would also ask himself when he wanted to write. Paolo Nori's novels are filled with questions and voices, with statements and their opposites, and also with excellent "chaperones" (such as Akhmatova and Dostoevsky). This time around, he conjures up one of the greatest Italian poets: Raffaello Baldini, the poet who wrote about life's obsessions in the dialect from Sant'Arcangelo di Romagna. Thus, Baldini's obsessions melt into Nori's, characters and events (as many as the densely populated small-town paradise can contain) open the door onto the abyss of existence. Between thrusts and counterthrusts, between "let's begin" and "let's continue" that punctuate the rhythm, we learn that Nori's writing is progressively focused on a character, his own: his being a "dumbass," his being a "contrarian," his crying like a Russian, his watching life unfold with every unexpected turn of being in the world.

## BACKLIST

*Bassotuba non c'è* - 2020

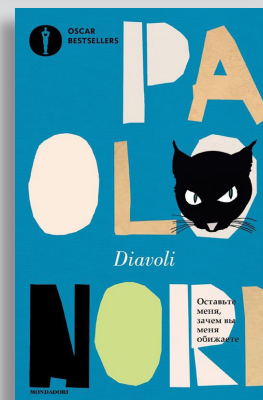
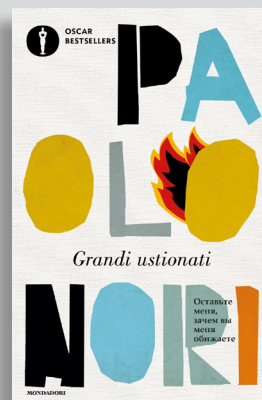
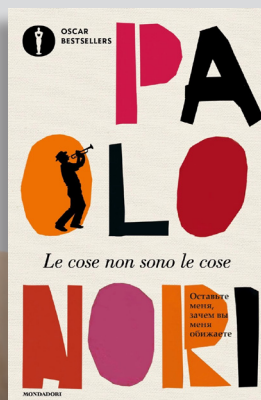
*Sanguina ancora* - 2021

*Vi avverto che vivo per l'ultima volta* - 2023

*Le cose non sono le cose* - 2023

*Grandi ustionati* - 2024

*Diavoli* - 2024



**PAOLO NORI** (Parma, 1963) is a professor at the IULM University in Milan, where he teaches Editorial Translation: Russian fiction and non-fiction. He has published several novels and essays, including *Bassotuba non c'è* (1999), *Si chiama Francesca, questo romanzo* (2002), *Noi la farem vendetta* (2006), *I malcontenti* (2010), *I russi sono matti* (2019), *Che dispiacere* (2020), and *Sanguina ancora* (2021). He has translated and edited books by major Russian authors the likes of Pushkin, Gogol, Turgenev, Tolstoy, Chekhov, and Dostoevsky.

EDOARDO VITALE

# The Extraordinary Ones

A brilliant, sharp, and also melancholic reflection on couples in the time of performance, stress, and climate change — hyper-contemporary nodes that affect us all.




PP. 180

PUBLICATION: **SEPTEMBER 2024**

**ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE**

Nico and Elsa are thirty-five years old and they are a couple. They work tirelessly for pANGEA, a multinational corporation with its Italian offices in Rome, working on the sustainable development of brands, ecological transition, and ethical lifestyles – in other words, greenwashing. Elsa and Nico run the Digital Innovation Department, where they created WeBreatheAgain, a very popular app for breathing exercises that helps users become more productive and live sustainably. They are a successful couple: they win awards, they are conscious consumers, they already bought a home, and they love each other. So why aren't they happy? Why do they spend sleepless nights devoured by anxiety? Why do they feel like they can never stop? They decided not to have children to devote themselves to their careers, and their social lives revolve entirely around work. They continue to live in Rome despite the increasingly long summers and fires becoming a daily occurrence. They are starting to question if these were really their choices. Meanwhile, Nico's migraines are becoming more disabling and worrisome, and WeBreatheAgain ends up in the middle of a scandal involving a very radical group of environmental activists. They are just days away from p-Day, a crucial moment for the company; Nico, Elsa, and their team have been working on it for months and they can't afford to slow down...

**EDOARDO VITALE** was born in 1989 in Rome, where he currently lives. He works in culture and digital communication. He writes for several magazines, including *Esquire*, *Rolling Stone*, *il Tascabile*, *Domani*, and *Nuovi argomenti*. This is his first novel.



“ With an anger filled with love, Edoardo Vitale shatters one of the greatest clichés of our time: we aren’t just losers. *Gli straordinari* is an incendiary and heartrending novel in which the future can still be invented. I have been waiting for this book for years, I am very happy it exists. ”

*Veronica Raimo*

“ From a debut, I look for a clear identity, the promise of other books to come. A writer has arrived with a novel made of tenderness and great seriousness. Towards our time and the writing that can narrate it. ”

*Claudia Durastanti*

**BENEDETTA CIBRARIO**

## The Many Human Things

Cibrario moves with sensitivity between eras and characters, revealing the emotional wounds they carry. Who better to recognize the noise of the world?



PP. 312

PUBLICATION: **AUGUST 2024**

Benedetta Cibrario collects her novellas in this book with the freshness and incisiveness of the short story format. A skillful orchestrator of human affairs, Cibrario pursues her characters from eighteenth century Naples, sumptuous and wretched, to the contemporary urban world of job crises, from postwar London to the shadowy western Alps, conferring dignity to the feelings, vision, and imagination of the protagonists and the events she depicts. The destiny of a Neapolitan nativity figurine known as *scurmuso*, which was crafted by the delicate fingers of a young artisan and passed along from hand to hand, from one century to another, rousing a secret dismay each time. The story of the elegant Mr. Mättli and his dog Flock, a mysterious presence on the top floor of a building that can only be reached by the enchanted gaze of a little girl. And then the adventure of a man who loses his job and spends his days outside, in a park, waiting to return home to his family who always awaits him, unaware of his unemployment.

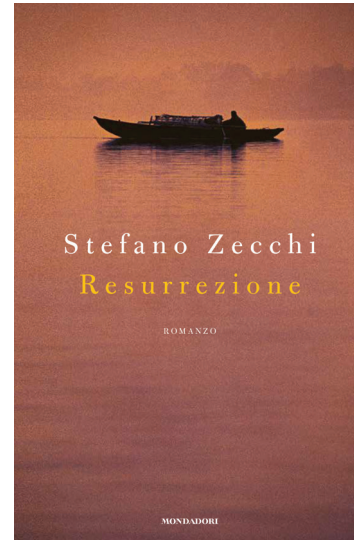
**BENEDETTA CIBRARIO** was born in Florence and lives between Italy and England with her husband and four children. With Mondadori she published *Il rumore del mondo* (2018), which sold more than twenty thousand copies and was runner-up for the Premio Strega 2019, and *Per ogni parola perduta* (2022).

STEFANO ZECCHI

## Resurrection

In the heart of an India where tensions and spirituality coexist, two women and a man will find destiny — pursued, unpredictable, tragic, yet fatefully revealing.

Delia, a photographer in a creative fog, convinces her husband Freddy to accompany her to Srinagar, in India. Delia's sister Clara, who inhabits life instead of living it, tags along. The three of them are stalling: they are not really tourists, they drag themselves throughout the days like children tired of the merry-go-round. They meet Etienne Deveraux by chance, an engineer who converted to Hinduism for love, and they end up in an unexpected diaspora the very next day. Delia navigates through the halls of bureaucracy in search of a visa to enter the war zone; Freddy discovers a revolutionary theory about Christ, whose body might be buried nearby; Clara runs into a community that practices rituals distant from her own. Without knowing it, all three of them are heading towards a destiny that seemed to be waiting for them there, in that part of the world and the soul where the human essence sheds every superstructure. A destiny that will make them all face their own resurrection.



PP. 240

PUBLICATION: OCTOBER 2024

**STEFANO ZECCHI** is an aesthetics professor at the University of Milan, a fiction and non-fiction author, and a columnist. All of his novels have been published by Mondadori. Among them *Rose bianche a Fiume* (2014), *L'amore nel fuoco della guerra* (2018, Niccolò Tommaseo award) and *Anime nascoste* (2020).



“A best-selling novelist and political activist in her native Italy, she was admired for her sensitive depictions of women and their predicaments. Recently rediscovered, her work has lost none of its subversive force.”

**The New York Times**

“Championed by Elena Ferrante, de Céspedes’s neo-realist classic *The Forbidden Notebook* is being reissued 70 years after it was first published. It still speaks to women’s lives today.”

**The  
Guardian**

## ALBA DE CÉSPEDES

### It's a Woman Who Speaks to You Tonight

The Voice of Clorinda from the Free Radio Stations of Bari and Naples

Edited by Valeria Paola Babini

Alba becomes Clorinda: the unpublished speeches from her radio shows during the Resistance.



The life of Alba de Céspedes changed on September 8, 1943. She fled Rome and spent some time hiding in the woods of Abruzzo before reaching the liberated part of Italy; that period made her discover a new humanity around her and her own deep-seated desire to “do something for Italy.” It manifested itself in an intense radio journalism activity, and this book is a collection of those unpublished texts. Alba takes on the nom de guerre “Clorinda” to speak on the free radio stations in Bari and Naples. In Bari, she addresses the “patriots” in Northern Italy who have to coexist with the German invaders, prompting also various forms of sabotage. In Naples, she starts to reflect on the values to be shared in the new Italy, which she will then expand on in her magazine *Mercurio*, the first periodical printed in liberated Italy.

PP. 252

PUBLICATION: **OCTOBER 2024**

## BACKLIST

*Dalla parte di lei* - 2021

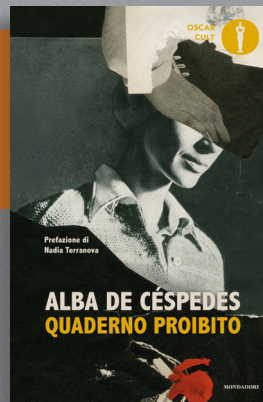
*Quaderno proibito* - 2022

*Nessuno torna indietro* - 2022

*Il rimorso* - 2023

*La bambolona* - 2023

*Nel buio della notte* - 2023



**ALBA DE CÉSPEDES** (Roma, 1911 – Paris, 1997) is one of the greatest Italian novelists of XX century, author of massive international bestsellers, such as *Nessuno torna indietro* (1938) and *Dalla parte di lei* (1948). Her books are translated into more than 25 languages.

## ANNA BANTI

# Golden Flies

A powerful portrait of lives suspended between difficult choices and desires for redemption, set against the backdrop of a Europe in turmoil.



PP. 460

PUBLICATION: NOVEMBER 2024

Considered Anna Banti's most ambitious and daring novel, *Le mosche d'oro* tells the story of two mirrored lives: Libero Marcocci, an Italian painter of peasant origins, and Denise Ravier, a fragile and restless young bourgeois woman. They loved each other in the bohemian Paris of the 1950s, and a child was born from their relationship. But the illusion shattered when Denise decided to abandon both of them out of impatience and exhaustion. Libero then faces the return home with the child, to an Italy both familiar and alien, where new responsibilities, political disillusionments, and complex family relationships deepen his sense of isolation. Denise, on the other hand, embarks on a desperate emotional unlearning amidst the high society of the French Riviera and Switzerland, moving between luxury hotels and psychiatric clinics.

A story of "love and disillusionment" in which Anna Banti expands her narrative scope to tackle contemporary issues, particularly the "myth of individual freedom."

**ANNA BANTI** (Florence, 1895 – Massa, 1985) was the pen name of Lucia Lopresti. Trained as an art historian, she turned to novels, stories, and autobiographical prose in the 1930s. *Artemisia*, her second novel, published in 1947, is the most acclaimed of the sixteen works of fiction she published during her long life, and is considered a classic of twentieth century Italian literature.

# GIANNA MANZINI

## Full-Length Portrait

A profound reflection on memory, loss, and the enduring power of ideals, where art blurs the line between truth and fiction (1971, winner of the Premio Campiello).

In these personal pages, Gianna Manzini retraces her childhood and her complex relationship with her father, Giuseppe Manzini, a fervent anarchist who died in 1925 after being assaulted by fascists. He passed on his belief to her: “Having an ideal is not enough. You must be worthy of it and willing to sacrifice everything, starting with yourself.” He saw himself in her: “‘You are like me,’ he said. ‘You wouldn’t back down.’” As Manzini weaves her memories and reflections about her father’s integrity, *Ritratto in piedi* (“Full-Length Portrait”) is a modernist work marked by refined introspection and an unusual, fragmented style where memories and emotions intertwine across different voices and time periods. More than just a journey through memory, it is a meditation on shame, grief, loss, and reconciliation. Written at age seventy-five, this novel is a story that still questions us to this day “about the power of art to liberate us, and its ability to also give shape to its insufficiency.”



PP. 240

PUBLICATION: SEPTEMBER 2024

**GIANNA MANZINI** (Pistoia, 1896 – Rome, 1974) is one the greatest Italian authors of the twentieth century. She was a storyteller, a reporter, a nonfiction writer, a refined reader, and a popularizer of Virginia Woolf’s works. She explored topics like identity, memory, and women’s liberation. Her books, which Oscar Mondadori is currently in the process of republishing, include *Tempo innamorato* (1928), *La sparviera* (1956, winner of the Premio Viareggio), and *Ritratto in piedi* – *Full-Length Portrait* (1971, winner of the Premio Campiello).

CARLOTTA FRUTTERO

## Alice Still Doesn't Know

Blinded by love, a dreamer protagonist must confront her past and a toxic relationship as foreclosure looms over her home.



PP. 240

PUBLICATION: JULY 2024

Alice runs the risk of losing the home where she grew up and lives: the bank's foreclosure looms ominously over her head. To continue her battle, she has to deal with the past and, above all, with that choice that overturned her life ten years ago. Could she have acted differently? Could she have realized what was happening? Perhaps. But Alice is a dreamer, she loves fairytales, Prince Charming, and happy endings. And when she finally meets Him, she leaves her good sense behind and throws herself body and soul into a great love story that could annihilate her. Because He declares to be madly in love with her while trapping her in an increasingly suffocating circle of solitude; she fails to notice the warning signs, even though she is a smart girl from an enlightened family. With *Alice ancora non lo sa* (lit. "Alice Still Doesn't Know"), Maria Carla "Carlotta" Fruttero (daughter of the author Carlo Fruttero) depicts a tragic folie à deux that allows her to reflect on disturbingly current themes such as manipulation, oppression, and everything that makes a love affair toxic.

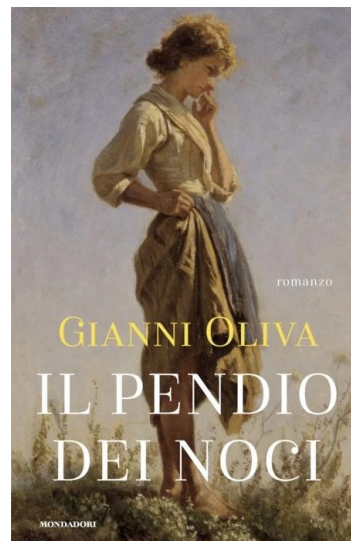
**CARLOTTA FRUTTERO** was born in Turin in 1962. She is the author of *La mia vita con papà*, published by Mondadori.

## GIANNI OLIVA

# The Walnut Slope

For the first time, Gianni Oliva puts his historical expertise and elegant prose at the service of a group of fictional characters with a compelling and thrilling story.

*Il pendio dei noci* (lit. “*The Walnut Slope*”) explores Giuliano’s life. Born in Piedmont in 1880, he ends up enlisting in the foreign legion after a series of adversities and finds himself fighting in World War I as a sergeant on Monte Grappa. Gianni Oliva alternates between two temporal planes: on the one hand, Giuliano’s childhood and youth in the Sangone Valley, his passionate love story with Maddalena, their dreams of fleeing to France, and finally the tragedy that will suddenly break them up; on the other hand, the crucial days of the second battle on Monte Grappa, which will end up being decisive for the war’s outcome. Up there, the sergeant’s story intertwines with the lives of the young and inexperienced privates Valdo and Gildo and with Captain Maglioli, a philosophy professor; in the extreme conditions of the frontline, the four of them will forge some very strong bonds.



PP. 252

PUBLICATION: OCTOBER 2024

**GIANNI OLIVA** teaches history of military institutions and has published several nonfiction books with Mondadori, including *I vinti e i liberati*, *Foibe*, *Si ammazza troppo poco*, *Soldati e ufficiali*, *Il tesoro dei vinti*, *Gli ultimi giorni della Monarchia*, *La guerra fascista*, *La bella morte*, *Il purgatorio dei vinti*, and *Anni di piombo e di tritolo*. He is the director of the Conservatorio Giuseppe Verdi in Turin. This is his literary debut in fiction.

## AURA CENNI, LORENZO DONATI

# Every Love Story is an Ending

In the heart of Tuscany, two broken souls find an imperfect love, born from shared pain and passion, in a story where love follows no straight line.



PP. 396

PUBLICATION: JULY 2024

This story is unlike any other. Love doesn't follow a straight line. It blossoms, sinks, is reborn, dies without resurrection. After a bitter disappointment, Aura leaves her city for refuge in San Gimignano, hoping the Tuscan countryside will calm her inner turmoil. Her isolation is interrupted when she meets Beatrice, an elderly noblewoman who entrusts her with reorganizing the family's precious library and archive. There, Aura meets Lorenzo, a writer working on a love and death story set during Liberation. Both broken souls, they recognize each other immediately, and between them, a fragile yet vivid love is born, a deep, imperfect bond driven by shared pain and passion. An intimate, wild tale, with an unstoppable rhythm and original style, capturing the essence of the most overwhelming feeling we never stop questioning.

**AURA CENNI**, born in Rome, adopted by Milan, has always been writing. She made her debut at a young age and today boasts publications in Italy and abroad, including short stories and essays that have garnered critical acclaim. She has a great passion for nature and has dedicated her life to beauty.

**LORENZO DONATI**, from Florence, is the author of a vast production of essays and novels translated abroad. He collaborates with newspapers and periodicals and works as a screenwriter for cinema and theater. This is their first four-handed novel.

## ROSA VENTRELLA

# The Short Seasons

A family saga about resilience and sacrifice and on the great struggle between good and evil.

Bari's Old Town, late 1980s. The second chapter of the family feud between the De Santis, a "decent family" of fishermen, and the Straziotas, the family of the local mob boss. In this installment, the great love story between Maria De Santis and Michele Straziota (the mobster's youngest son) seems to have come to an end. Michele has disappeared, nobody knows anything about him, some say he moved to America to run the family's growing business across the ocean. But Maria is hiding something that could estrange her again from her father, rocking a relationship that has always been tempestuous, made of love and hate. She is hiding the fact that she is pregnant, that she is expecting the son of her hopeless love for Michele. In the meantime, she seeks shelter at the university and she starts spending time with an old friend, and throws herself headlong into creating an organization to help the neighborhood's street children. But Maria has never forgotten Michele. One day, a stranger suddenly arrives in the neighborhood, a certain Francesco Falco. Nobody knows who he is: could he be a friend of the Straziotas or a rival seeking to take over the illegal trafficking that goes on in Old Bari?



PP. 228

PUBLICATION: SEPTEMBER 2024

ADAPTED INTO A TV SERIES

**ROSA VENTRELLA** has a degree in modern history and she teaches literature and creative writing. Among most recent bestsellers, *Storia di una famiglia perbene*, *La malalegna* (ed. Mondadori, 2019), *Benedetto sia il padre* and *I bambini di Haretz*. Her books are very popular abroad and have been translated in twenty-four languages.

NORA DE LUCA

## Other People's Children

A desecrating and entertaining gaze, an extremely enjoyable yet provoking reading experience.



PP. 180

PUBLICATION: AUGUST 2024

Nora De Luca writes about the difficult relationships between children, teachers, parents, and support staff. The children are disoriented by language and psychological challenges; the teachers struggle to find a path beyond ministerial guidelines; the parents are perplexed by conflicts ranging from indifference to obstructive protection. Emerging from this chaos are the new heroes of education: the fearless Scardozza, the heartrending Mia, Gianni from Senegal, and Alberto, who writes sentences like tax IDs on the blackboard. It is a theater of the absurd, but for those working in this universe, one thing remains certain: they are caring for “other people’s children,” increasingly diverse and numerous. Nora De Luca writes this book to let us know and ask for help, to accompany the chain of events with a trace of a smile. A story full of grace and anger, dismay and emotion.

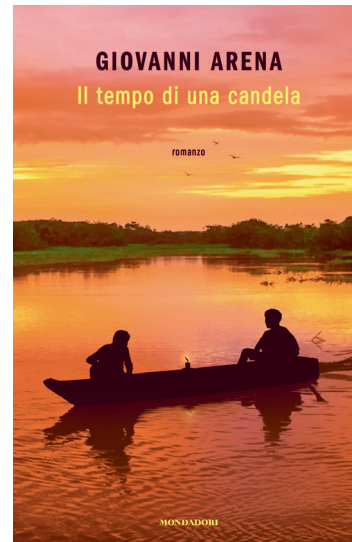
**NORA DE LUCA** is an elementary school teacher. She chose to write this book with a pen name to protect, as she says, “the hard work of living in the school that unites us all.”

# GIOVANNI ARENA

## The Time of a Candle

An intimate, emotional, and moving novel, telling the story of a journey shared by five fragile lives searching for their place in the world.

The Amazon River is vast, so immense it feels like a sea in which one could easily get lost. It's a world unto itself, the only way to venture into the most wild and untouched rainforest on Earth. It's the perfect place to escape and try to rediscover oneself. That's exactly what Ruberval—with his strange name and a past to hide from—Classandra, whose silence craves solitude, Tom, who's lost his way after following others for too long, Matilde, with her gentle eyes veiled in sadness, and Maria, whose maturity is born from many wounds, all do. These five characters, aboard the Certeza, sail up the river amid the deafening sounds of nature, immersed in the red-streaked horizons of the equatorial forest. Five strangers, seemingly distant, but destined to meet each night by the warm, flickering light of a candle that must not go out until every story is fully revealed. One by one, they confess without filters or omissions, each listened to by the others, accepted for who they truly are, along with all the darkness they carry within.



PP. 224

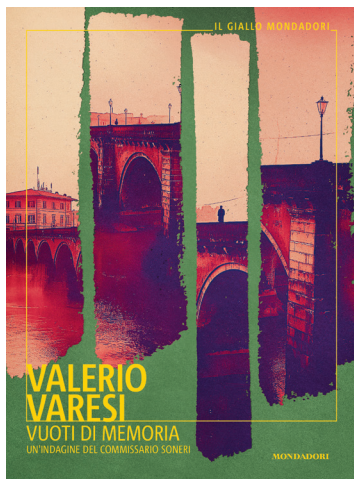
PUBLICATION: **OCTOBER 2024**

**GIOVANNI ARENA** is a travel blogger with 550,000 followers on Instagram. His first two books sold 15,000 copies.

VALERIO VARESI

## Lapses in Memory

The return of Commissario Soneri, the oldest and most beloved literary creature by the noir master Valerio Varesi.



PP. 368

PUBLICATION: SEPTEMBER 2024

It has been months since Roberto Calandri was found dead – or rather executed, considering the dynamics of the brutal murder. After a quick investigation, Carmelo Musci (a professional hitman for *'ndrangheta*) was charged with homicide. That same day, Luciano Orsi (Calandri's business partner) disappeared into thin air; the prosecutors assumed that he had also fallen victim to the mob's retaliation. Instead, by some grim coincidence, Orsi reappears on a boat off the coast of Cesenatico just as the victim's family and friends are participating in a memorial service. Where has he been until now? Only he can say. Too bad it's impossible for Orsi to do so because he suffers from amnesia. For days, Commissario Soneri has been wondering about memory and its fatal unreliability; the investigation becomes the chance to ask himself how much truth there is in our memories and how technology is changing everything: because it is thanks to technology that he starts to suspect that Musci didn't actually have anything to do with the murder...

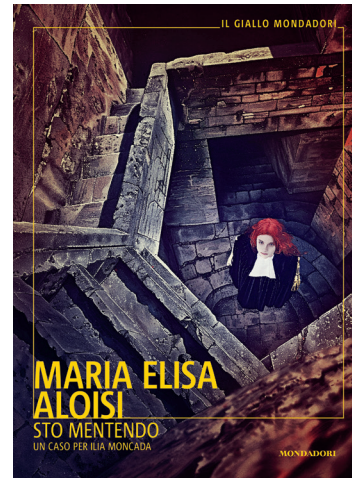
**VALERIO VARESI** (Turin, 1959) is one of the most popular crime writers in Italy. His novels represent some of the best examples of “social noir” in Europe and have been translated in the United Kingdom, Germany, Poland, Spain, and France, where he has been called “the Italian Simenon.” *Gli invisibili* (2019, published in English as *The Unseen*, Patrician Press, 2022), *Reo confesso* (2021), *L'affittacamere* (2023), *Il labirinto di ghiaccio* (2023), *A mani vuote* (2024) are his latest novels all published by Mondadori.

# MARIA ELISA ALOISI

## I Am Lying

In a Catania suspended between courtrooms and beaches, a young attorney has to defend a morally ambiguous entrepreneur.

Mount Etna has just spewed ash over Catania when a body is discovered: it is Carlo Spadaro, a geriatrician accused of abusing his daughter. Damiano Crisafulli, who recently had some heated discussions with Spadaro, is blamed for the murder. His defense falls in the hands of Ilia Moncada, a young criminal defense lawyer with a true passion for the Law, a strong fear of public speaking, and a love life as tangled as a ball of yarn. But she also has a real talent for reading her clients' souls, trial documents, and the secrets hidden in the folds of a crime. This time, however, the case presents many thorns: Damiano had a motive, he can't provide an alibi, and there are traces of his presence on the crime scene. The outcome of the trial seems obvious and the path is hindered by a whirlwind of lies: everyone in the courtroom seems to have a good reason to lie. Will Ilia manage to bring out the truth?



PP. 312

PUBLICATION: SEPTEMBER 2024

**MARIA ELISA ALOISI** works as a criminal attorney. She wrote the books *Fiutando il vento* (published in 2019, winner of the Il Borgo Italiano award), *Il canto della falena* (ed. Il Giallo Mondadori, 2023, winner of the Premio Tedeschi 2021), and the young-adult novel *Il mistero di Villa Polifemo*.

## GIAN MAURO COSTA

# The Archangels' Lies

When a murder hits close to home, officer Angela Mazzola is drawn into a deadly game—and darker forces lurking beneath.



PP. 320

PUBLICATION: **SEPTEMBER 2024**

Angela Mazzola, a police officer in the outskirts of Palermo, is navigating in dead water. After solving a mystery spanning two centuries and just as many countries, her job in the homicide squad has gone back to routine work. In addition, her romantic life is unsatisfying, it is a quagmire of disappointment due to the impossible relationship with her coworker Francesco. But everything is about to change: when a carpenter is killed at her doorstep, the strangeness of the crime (which seems like an execution) makes Angela and Francesco work side by side. The investigation is complex, but it takes a darker turn when they find a flier in the carpenter's workshop, which puts them on the trail of a group of self-proclaimed "messengers" who promise to put people in touch with their guardian angels. Under the scent of roses, Angela detects a sulphureous smell, the same that lingered around four minor archangels, known as the Unmentionable: they will turn out to be the secret code that will help them solve a very dark mystery.

**GIAN MAURO COSTA** was born and lives in Palermo. As a journalist, he has worked with numerous publications. He is a journalist, a director, a screenwriter, and the author of several novels. His most recent books are *Luci di luglio* (2022) and *Ti uccido per gioco* (2023), both published by Mondadori.

NICOLA PESCE

# The Library of Forgotten Books

A small bookstore in Venice, a talking cat, Leopardi and Dostoevsky.

“The Library of Forgotten Books” is located in Venice and is the dream realized by a solitary bookseller, Leda, who fled from a small town in Campania to free herself from the insecurities and traumas caused by her family. But her bookstore is unlike any other; it hides the unborn books of literary history (such as Gogol’s second and third volumes of Dead Souls, Aristotle’s Poetics, or unpublished poems by Baudelaire). The bookstore is a magical place, a portal through which Leda connects with the flesh-and-blood versions of Leopardi and Dostoevsky, traveling with them and discovering the true power of literature: to heal the lives of readers through the stories it tells.



PP. 368

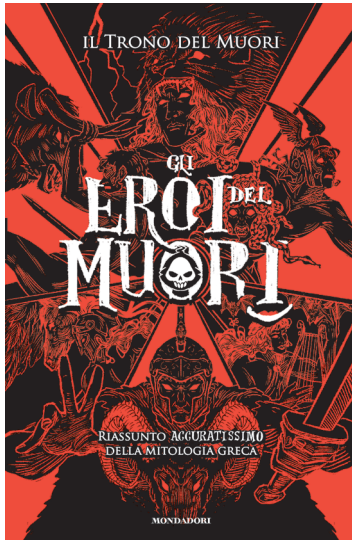
PUBLICATION: NOVEMBER 2024

**NICOLA PESCE** was born in Salerno in 1984, he likes to describe himself as a reader before a writer. Afflicted by Asperger’s syndrome, he has chosen to see it as a strength that allows him to see and describe the world in a different way. In love with slow living and the little things, he works every day to actively promote kindness and a love for culture. He is a digital nomad traveling across Italy and the world, armed with old, yellowed notebooks in which he writes his novels and poems.

# TRONO DEL MUORI

## All Heroes Must Die

An irreverent summary of Greek mythology and how demigods, heroes, and heroines die.



PP. 180

PUBLICATION: OCTOBER 2024

Greek mythology and, in particular, its half-human half-divine heroes (Perseus, Theseus, Hercules, etc.) narrated in the irreverent and absurd voice of *Trono del Muori*. Popularization and comedy, the Anti Madeline Miller. Greek mythology and, in particular, its half-human, half-divine heroes (Perseus, Theseus, Hercules, etc.) narrated in the irreverent and absurd voice of *Trono del Muori*. Popularization and comedy, the Anti-Madeline Miller. The author humorously and irreverently addresses the big questions about Greek mythology: Did Philoctetes really exist? Did he actually train everyone? But above all, who are these demigods? Young men who tackled extremely difficult tasks, but without the immortality cheat that the gods had. The stories of the demigods start badly and end worse. Get ready to experience all the adventures of the heroes who struck me the most—positively, but especially negatively.

**TRONO DEL MUORI** is one of the trendiest popularizers on YouTube along the lines of Barbascura X. His channel has almost 400,000 followers; his videos, which talk about history, literature, movies, and TV shows, have millions of views.

# H. P. LOVECRAFT

## Atlas of the Dreamlands

Texts by Carlo Baja Guarienti, Illustrations by Alberto Ponticelli  
Afterword by S.T. Joshi

Explore Lovecraft's dreamlike realms in an atlas where imagination meets dark fantasy.

Tentacular geographies and non-Euclidean geometries are an essential part of the dark imagination of H. P. Lovecraft, which over the decades has transcended the written page to inspire authors, illustrators, and filmmakers. From Aira, the city of marble and beryl, to Kadath, the last abode of the Gods of Earth, passing through impregnable mountains, deserts, and impenetrable forests, these places are nothing but dreams. But if it's true that all human things are merely dreams, then this visionary atlas is no different from any other catalog of places never visited. Compiling it is Carlo Baja Guarienti, with illustrations by Alberto Ponticelli, an afterword by S.T. Joshi, and a map drawn by Francesca Baerald. The result is an essential guide to the fantastic realms born from the pen of the Recluse of Providence.



PP. 160

PUBLICATION: SEPTEMBER 2024

**HOWARD PHILLIPS LOVECRAFT** (Providence, Rhode Island, 1890-1937) From 1924, he lived in New York for two years, returning to his hometown in 1926, where he resumed writing the many supernatural stories that were published in magazines like *Weird Tales*. Among his best-known stories are *Dagon* (1917), *The Call of Cthulhu* (1926), *The Dunwich Horror* (1928), and *At the Mountains of Madness* (1931).

**CARLO BAJA GUARIENTI** is a historian who studied at the University of Ferrara, the Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa, and the Warburg Institute. He has published essays on political and cultural history and has taught Modern History and History Didactics as an adjunct professor at the University of Ferrara and the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia.



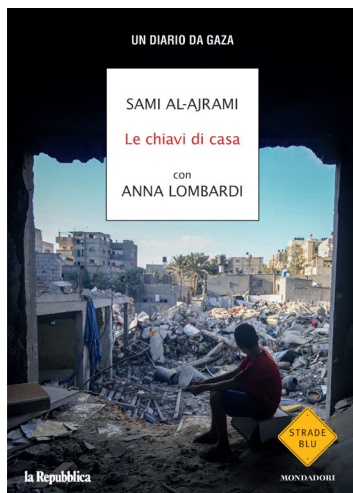


SAMI AL-AJRAMI

# The House Keys

A Journal from Gaza

The exclusive testimony of the journalist who narrated the war in the Gaza Strip as it unfolded.



PP. 216

PUBLICATION: **OCTOBER 2024**

[ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE](#)

Sami al-Ajrami, a Palestinian journalist born in Gaza, has been working and writing for years from the Gaza Strip, collaborating with many international media outlets. In these months of war, he has been the only voice from inside Gaza reporting the conflict for the Italian press. He evacuated from Gaza City with his wife, daughters, and elderly parents, bearing witness to the Palestinian drama. He wrote a journal for the daily newspaper *La Repubblica*, recounting the atrocities and suffering, the fear and powerlessness of those who experience the war firsthand; he delivered the chronicle of an immense tragedy, but also a precious and personal portrait of daily life in the Gaza Strip. Sami al-Ajrami, currently a refugee in Egypt, remains in contact with those who stayed in Gaza and hasn't interrupted his reporting, which now finds a new space in the unprecedented pages of this book.

“Two comfortable armchairs under a wide window and, between them, a coffee table where I placed an ashtray. That is where I started my days, sipping coffee and listening to the news. Then, I would smoke my first cigarette. That corner has been destroyed by now, and I miss it more than anything. I have a photograph with me. I look at it every day.”



**SAMI AL-AJRAMI** is a Palestinian journalist born in Gaza. He has been working and writing from the Gaza Strip for various international newspapers for years. He currently works for the press agency ANSA and the daily newspaper La Repubblica.



## SIMONE PIERANNI

# 2100

### How Will Asia Be, How Will We Be

An in-depth look at Asia, between social conflicts, technological innovations, and cultural trends, to help us better understand our society and our future.



PP. 192

PUBLICATION: SEPTEMBER 2024

Asia is already a demographic, economic, cultural, and military powerhouse; what happens in that part of the world is often a preview of what will take place in our societies. What will the cities of the future look like? How will we move around? How will Big Data and artificial intelligence change our lives? How will we deal with the demographic crisis and the environmental crisis? What types of food will we eat? And what kind of families will we be? There is in fact a part of Asia that we don't see, but which grows at a rapid pace; and it is discussing, tackling, and sometimes solving issues that have also been debated in our western world for some time. An Asia where a billion-dollar company is born every day, cities transform themselves, robots take care of the elderly, surgery is performed remotely, blockchains are rampant, factories are automated, digital currency is the only payment method possible, and cultured meat is a daily dietary ingredient: a world with examples, cues, and solutions from which we could learn. And mistakes we could avoid repeating.

**SIMONE PIERANNI** is a journalist who lived in China from 2006 to 2014. In that time, he started China Files, a publishing agency that works with several Italian media sources through reports and articles about China and Asia. He created the podcasts *Altri Orientali*, *Fuori da qui* and *Taiwan: perché*. He is the author of *Red Mirror. Il nostro futuro si scrive in Cina* (ed. Laterza, 2020), *La Cina nuova* (ed. Laterza, 2021), and *Tecnocina* (ed. Add Editore, 2023).

# FEDERICO RAMPINI

## Thank You, West!

All The Good We Have Done

In his new book, Federico Rampini invites us to rediscover the value of western history and culture.

The current dominant narrative imposes a version of history that portrays white Europeans and North Americans only as sowers of destruction, oppression, and suffering. In reality, however, the West has played a crucial role in the world. Western science, our medicine, and our agronomy have been copied and applied to the rest of humanity with immense benefits. In places where people fight to improve human rights (like women's condition), the West is once again a guiding reference. Our industrial model has raised great nations out of poverty, and the challenge for a cleaner and more sustainable economy, for decarbonizing the environment, will be won thanks to our scientific research and our technological innovation. Federico Rampini retraces the value of western culture in a nonfiction book that helps us rebuild our self-esteem and view the future with more confidence.



PP. 348

PUBLICATION: SEPTEMBER 2024

**FEDERICO RAMPINI** is a columnist for *Corriere della Sera*. He was a correspondent for *la Repubblica* in Paris, Brussels, San Francisco, Beijing, and New York. He has taught at the universities of Berkeley and Shanghai. He published over twenty successful nonfiction books, many of which were translated into other languages. His most recent books include *La seconda guerra fredda* (2019), *Fermare Pechino* (2021), *Suicidio occidentale* (2022), *Il lungo inverno* (2022), and *La speranza africana* (2023).

ANTONIO MISSIROLI

## Europe's Defense

Who Guarantees the Security of the Continent?

In collaboration with ISPI, a book that answers a crucial and very urgent question: who will ensure European security and how?



The invasion of Ukraine tragically brought back to the center of public interest the issue of using military force, violence, the destruction it entails, and the necessity to prevent them. The idea of European defense, reintroduced after Brexit and in reaction to the Trump presidency, has returned to the center of the conversation. And yet, Europe's response to the Russian offensive has materialized again, and especially, thanks to NATO and the United States, highlighting the centrality of the transatlantic alliance in European defense. A dependency that could become dangerous in a time of increasing conflicts: a war in the middle of the continent, instability in the Middle East, and an American leadership focused on competing with China have placed Europe in a progressively precarious position. The Assistant Secretary General of NATO reconstructs the history of Europe's common defense project, looking at potential future developments for the Old Continent.

PP. 216

PUBLICATION: **OCTOBER 2024**

**ANTONIO MISSIROLI** was an advisor for the European Commission, the director of the EU Institute for Security Studies, and NATO's Assistant Secretary General. He is a senior advisor at the Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI). He has a Ph.D. from the Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa and he taught at Sciences Po, at the College of Europe, at SAIS Europe, and at the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies. His latest Italian publication is *L'Europa come potenza: diplomazia, sicurezza e difesa* (ed. Il Mulino, 2022).

MICHELA MURGIA, CHIARA TAGLIAFERRI

## Morgana

The Mother's Body

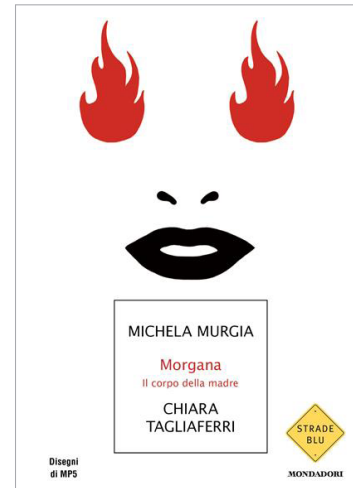
The third and final volume of *Morgana* is a powerful celebration of motherhood in all its diverse and unconventional forms.

The extraordinary literary and political project that Michela Murgia and Chiara Tagliaferri brought to life in 2019 comes to a close with this third volume.

At the heart of this final chapter, the two authors have chosen to focus on the body as a malleable element of identity and motherhood in its most intricate forms.

From Mary of Nazareth, the ultimate non-mother, to Elena Ferrante, who conquered the world without the need for her physical presence; from David Bowie, who delighted in changing skins continuously, to the “twice mothers” of Plaza de Mayo, Sylvia Plath, Goliarda Sapienza, and many more. And finally, Michela Murgia herself, mother, friend, sister, intellectual, and a woman of many lives, portrayed through the voices of her queer family and her closest friends.

*Morgana*, whose stories depict a liberating world filled with diverse, alternative forms of fertility, where no one is a better or worse mother than the others.



PP. 416

PUBLICATION: OCTOBER 2024

**MICHELA MURGIA**'s (1972-2023) books have been translated into over thirty countries. Among them: *Accabadora* (winner of the Premio Campiello 2010), *Ave Mary* (2011), *Chirù* (2015), *Istruzioni per diventare fascisti* (2018), and *God Save the Queer. Catechismo femminista* (2022). Following the enormous success of her latest novel, *Tre ciotole* (Mondadori, 2023), which sold more than 100,000 copies, *Ricordatemi come vi pare* (Mondadori, 2024) was published posthumously.

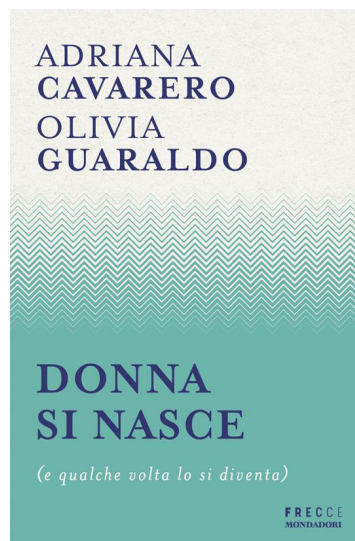
**CHIARA TAGLIAFERRI** is the co-author, together with Michela Murgia, of the books *Morgana. Storie di ragazze che tua madre non approverebbe* (2019) and *Morgana. L'uomo ricco sono io* (2021), both published by Mondadori and inspired by the cult podcasts of the same name on the Storielibere.fm platform. She worked for many years as a writer for radio shows and curated several other podcasts.

ADRIANA CAVARERO, OLIVIA GUARALDO

## Born Woman

(and Sometimes Becoming One)

An authoritative and nonconformist contribution to the increasingly lively debate on feminism and gender equality.



Simone de Beauvoir stated that “one is not born a woman, but becomes one,” meaning that being a woman is a cultural construct rooted in the patriarchy. So are women just a patriarchal construct? Or does “woman” define a way in which the human being manifests itself in a different but equal way? The authors assert that it is not by erasing sexual differences that real emancipation can be reached, but rather by reclaiming women’s differences. A very contemporary analysis that tackles with a clear and uncompromising gaze some of the hottest issues of our time, from gender-based violence to surrogacy, from reproductive freedom to the debate over inclusive language.

PP. 216

PUBLICATION: SEPTEMBER 2024

**ADRIANA CAVARERO** is a philosopher of the “theories of sexual differences.” In the Nineties, she founded Diotima, a philosophical community that influenced generations of thinkers, activists, artists, and politicians worldwide. She published several books. Her latest title is *Donne che allattano cuccioli di lupo* (ed. Castelvechi, 2023).

**OLIVIA GUARALDO** teaches political philosophy at the University of Verona, where she is also the director of the Hannah Arendt Center for Political Studies. She is an expert on Hannah Arendt and contemporary feminisms.

# VANESSA ROGHI

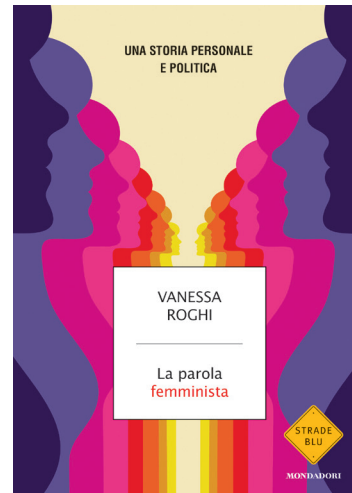
## The Word Feminist

A Personal and Political History

A book for those who have lost touch with the word “feminist” along the way and now feel the need to fill that void.

The word “feminist” leaves no room for half measures: you either love it or hate it, speak it or burn it. Even years after it was first used, it continues to evoke a wide range of meanings, images, and interpretations. It seems difficult to imagine a definition that encompasses its many nuances and shows how it has evolved over time and space. Yet, in this essay, Vanessa Roghi manages to do so brilliantly.

By intertwining her own story with history itself, the author recalls the feminism she was immersed in as a child, filled with fairy tales without princesses and the meetings of the collective her mother belonged to, and the feminism she experienced as a young woman, amidst street protests and English pop music. She then traces the disastrous setbacks of the 1990s, partly due to the new portrayal of women promoted by certain highly successful TV shows, weaving a narrative that touches on all the core themes of feminism, from motherhood to abortion, from sexuality to gender. This collective biography invites us not to forget the past and to keep the conversation alive about the possibilities that the act of “thinking of and defining oneself” can continue to bring in this millennium.



PP. 276

PUBLICATION: OCTOBER 2024

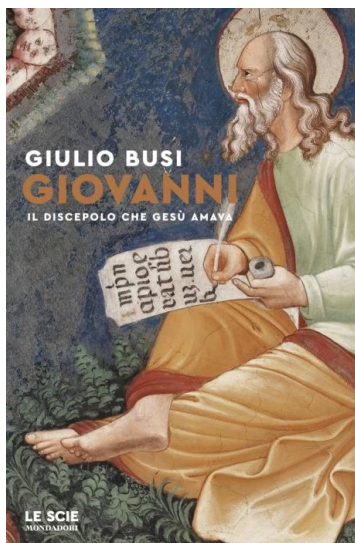
**VANESSA ROGHI** is a historian and author of history shows for Rai Tre. She was a Bodini Fellow at the Italian Academy at Columbia University, and she is an independent researcher. She has written many books, including the latest one published by Mondadori entitled *Eroina* (2022).

GIULIO BUSI

## John

The Beloved Disciple of Jesus

A groundbreaking portrait of the Evangelist John that challenges traditional views of the Fourth Gospel.



The Gospel of John is the most theological and erudite of the Gospels. And the least reliable from a historical perspective. It is an ancient, widespread, and steadfast opinion: but it is also false. In this book, Giulio Busi traces an unprecedented portrait of the Evangelist. We meet a witness immersed in the life of Jerusalem, an expert in Jewish customs and traditions who knows the minute details of Israel's laws. But John's text isn't only a first-rate historical source, it is a mystical fire and a love challenge. The Fourth Gospel revolves around the "beloved disciple," presented as an eyewitness to the key moments of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Is John this unnamed disciple? And what if it were two different persons instead? How can the labyrinth of passions and transgressions that pervades Johannine literature be untangled? Even stronger than the scandal of the cross preached by Paul, the scandalous love announced by John is the real sigil of Christian origins.

PP. 156

PUBLICATION: SEPTEMBER 2024

**GIULIO BUSI** is a professor at Freie Universität Berlin and the president of the Fondazione Palazzo Bondoni Pastorio. He has written about Jewish mysticism, Renaissance history, and the philosophy of Giovanni Pico della Mirandola. Mondadori published his books *Lorenzo de' Medici* (2016), *Michelangelo* (2017), *Marco Polo* (2018), *Cristoforo Colombo* (2020), *Giulio II* (2021), and *Gesù, il re ribelle* (2023).

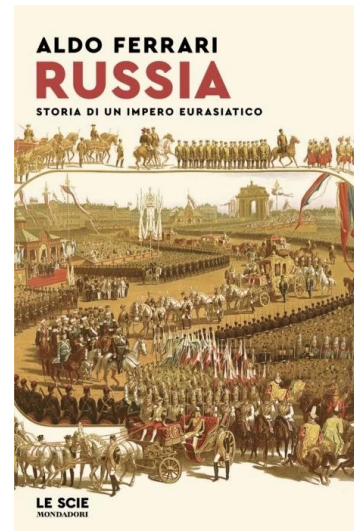
ALDO FERRARI

## Russia

History of a Eurasian Empire

Russia explained as a superpower through key aspects of its history.

This book explains the Russian superpower through specific aspects of its history. Russian history, in fact, shouldn't be interpreted as peripheral to Europe's: it should be seen within autonomous dynamics connected first to nomadic people of the steppes and then to the competition with other Eurasian empires (Ottoman, Persian, and Chinese). Among its distinguishing features, Aldo Ferrari's book pays special attention to: the autocratic aspects of the political sphere from Ivan the Terrible to Putin, resulting not only from its Byzantine heritage but also from its Mongolian one; the country's multiethnic nature, both during the Tsarist era and in Soviet times; and, finally, the neo-imperial politics of modern Russia and its collaboration with China within the project of a Great Eurasia in opposition to western hegemony.



PP. 372

PUBLICATION: SEPTEMBER 2024

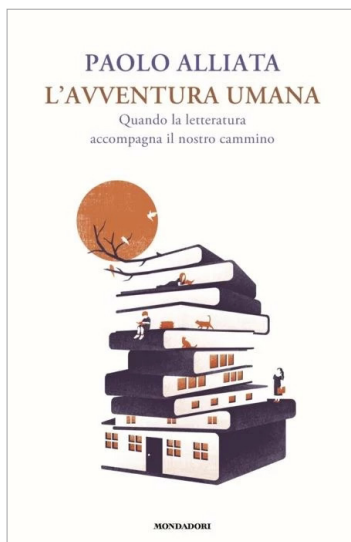
**ALDO FERRARI** is a professor at the Ca' Foscari University of Venice, where he teaches Armenian language and literature, history of Eurasia, history of the Caucasus and Central Asia, and he manages the Observatory of Politics and International Relations (OPRI). He is the director of the research program on Russia, the Caucasus, and Central Asia at the ISPI Institute in Milan. He is the president of the Association for the Study of Central Asia and the Caucasus in Italy (ASIAC). His most recent books include *Storia degli armeni* (with G. Traina, ed. Il Mulino, 2020) and *Storia della Crimea dall'antichità a oggi* (ed. Il Mulino, 2022).

PAOLO ALLIATA

# The Human Adventure

When Literature Accompanies the Steps of Our Lives

Don Paolo Alliata encourages us to face life by drawing inspiration from the Gospel and from literature.



Life is the greatest adventure to which we are invited. In this book, Don Paolo Alliata helps us face with confidence the challenges that occur along the way by borrowing the words of great authors and the Gospel. Even though times change, the emotions that rouse the human spirit stay basically the same; yesterday and today's literature offer precious support when dealing with the existential questions that have always vexed us, from discovering our own identity to accepting death. With a tone at times humorous and light, and other times deep and emotional, passing from Roy Lewis to Eliot and Collodi, Alliata guides us in this touching and unprecedented literary journey on the border between the earth and the sky.

PP. 204

PUBLICATION: **SEPTEMBER 2024**

**PAOLO ALLIATA** is a priest in the Diocese of Milan. Ponte delle Grazie published his books *Dove Dio respira di nascosto* (2018), *C'era come un fuoco ardente* (2019), *Gesù predicava ai bradipi* (2021), and *L'amore fa miracoli* (2024). He has been the director of the Service for the Biblical Apostolate for the Diocese of Milan since 2019.

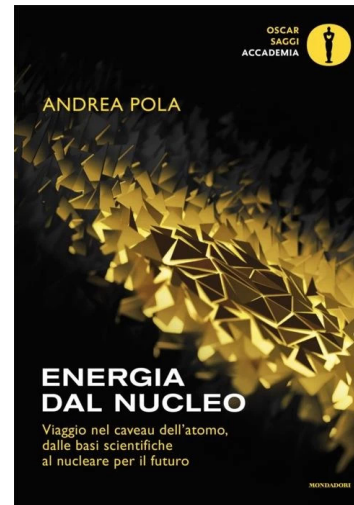
ANDREA POLA

# Energy from the Nucleus

Exploring the Atom's Core: From Scientific Basics  
to Future Nuclear Energy

The energy of the future explained by one of the world's leading experts.

In an age dominated by the debate on energy sources, between the economic crisis and the need to find alternatives to fossil fuels to ensure the planet's future, nuclear energy is increasingly seen as a solution, if not the solution. Others are vehemently opposed to it, evoking ghosts from the past (Chernobyl) or relying on a strictly environmental ideology. Where does the truth lie? How does nuclear energy work? Is it dangerous? Is it efficient? Does it pollute? What is the current state of its technology? Andrea Pola answers these questions in a book that is as thorough and high-level as it is easy to understand: an excellent combination of academia and science popularization.



PP. 240

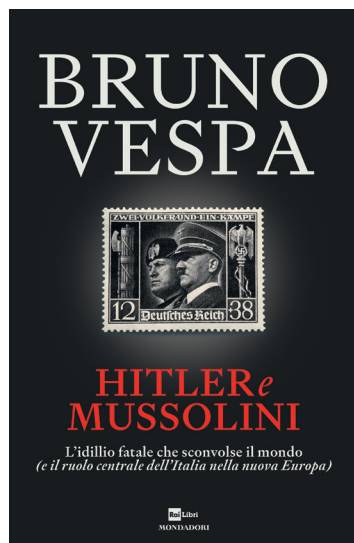
PUBLICATION: SEPTEMBER 2024

**ANDREA POLA** teaches nuclear engineering at the Polytechnic University of Milan. He worked as an expert for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

**BRUNO VESPA**

# Hitler and Mussolini

The fatal bond that shook the world (and Italy's central role in the new Europe).



While it's true that Mussolini served as an inspirational model for Hitler, in the end, the "Duce" was captivated by the Führer, who dragged him into the insane project of an Aryan empire and, ultimately, into the abyss of World War II. The historical section of Bruno Vespa's new book is dedicated to the early phase of the complex and contradictory relationship between the two dictators, who were central figures in the first half of the twentieth century. Vespa outlines their individual profiles and reconstructs their swift and seemingly irresistible rise to power. As usual, the final chapters provide ample coverage of current events, behind-the-scenes insights, and the diverse perspectives of Italy's political landscape, within the context of a year of Italian history poised to impact not only the future of the government majority and the opposition but also that of the European Union.

PP. 408

PUBLICATION: **OCTOBER 2024**

**BRUNO VESPA** (L'Aquila, 1944) has been running since 1996 the TV show "Porta a porta", the most watched talk show on politics and current affairs in Italy. He published with Mondadori a long list of bestselling essays, giving his many readers a chance to better understand the delicate political and financial situation in Italy.

# BARBARA GALLAVOTTI

## The Future Is Already Here

What Can Artificial Intelligence Really Do

A fascinating journey that explores the relationship between human and artificial intelligence to envisage what to expect.

From twelfth century automatons to the inventions of a young eclectic man from eighteenth century France, the desire to create an intelligent replacement for human beings has ancient roots. The latest extraordinary leap was the development of artificial intelligence. While some consider it a massive risk for humanity, for many it is also a gamble in which it is worth investing for our future. Its unparalleled learning capacity could help us find solutions to climate change or increasingly targeted cures for cancer. It is therefore necessary to understand it and make the best use of it, beyond myths and misunderstandings about how it works. Between fascinating stories and unexpected analogies, Barbara Gallavotti guides us on a journey through the new generative systems and the human intelligence that invented them.



PP. 252

PUBLICATION: OCTOBER 2024

**BARBARA GALLAVOTTI** is a writer and science communicator. She has been writing popular science and in-depth TV shows for over twenty years.

## GIANLUIGI BUFFON

### Saved

Co-authored by Strega Award winner Mario Desiati, the definitive autobiography of the greatest and longest-serving goalkeeper of all time.



PP. 256

PUBLICATION: **NOVEMBER 2024**

The greatest and longest-serving goalkeeper of all time, Gianluigi Buffon, finally writes his definitive autobiography. A significant book, not only because Buffon is the goalkeeper cherished by all Italian and international fans, but also because it delves into and explores his personal life, revealing the dark and deeply human aspects of a player nicknamed ‘Superman’.

It covers his individual triumphs (with Parma, Juventus, and PSG) and team victories (league titles and the World Cup), but more than that, it focuses on the struggles of a man whose talents and flaws coexist: exuberance turning into arrogance, insecurities trapping him, the professional bubble becoming a prison of loneliness and depression, his passion for gambling turning into a vice, and the difficulty of maintaining normal relationships, untainted by gossip.

A book that is the literary result of the collaboration between a legendary athlete and Strega Prize winner Mario Desiati: a blend of high, artistic writing in service of an extraordinary personality, creating a text enjoyable even for those less interested in Buffon.

**GIANLUIGI “GIGI” BUFFON** (Carrara, 1978) is a former soccer player considered to be one of the best goalkeepers of all time. He grew up in Parma’s youth teams, made his Serie A debut at seventeen. After a short stint with Paris Saint-Germain, he returned to Turin until 2021, and ended his athletic career after playing for Parma. He announced his retirement at the age of forty-five, and then became the head of the delegation of the Italian national team. Over the years, he won five Coppe Italia, six Supercoppe Italiane, eleven Scudetti, and one UEFA Cup. He won the World Cup with the Italian national team in 2006. FIFA ranked him in the top 125 greatest living soccer players.

FABIO VOLO

## We Will Dance to the Music They Play

The story of a young man who felt like he didn't belong in the place he was. So he went looking for another.

There wasn't much money in the family, and when they went to a pizzeria, he would choose the cheapest dish, not the one he really wanted. His destiny seemed pre-determined: no special talents, no dreams to chase, and whenever he expressed a desire, someone told him it wasn't meant for him. He came to believe certain thoughts were beyond him. One day, however, he discovered books in a way he hadn't in school, and they moved him. The works of Hesse, Marquez, London, and Conrad made him realize: there must be a place for me, too. Suddenly, his life felt too small. Reading showed him an escape and gave him the courage to take it. But searching for your own path sometimes means hurting those who stay behind, like that father who had always been his great, sad hero. Because a child with an unhappy parent feels guilty every time he touches happiness with his hands. In this book, Fabio Volo for the first time abandons fiction to tell his personal story without filters. Touching episodes alternate with inspiring, carefree, and humorous scenes. Written with the simplicity and authenticity that define his style, *Balleremo la musica che suoneranno* is one of his most intimate and sincere books, offering strength and tenderness.



PP. 192

PUBLICATION: NOVEMBER 2024

**FABIO VOLO** writer, actor, TV and radio presenter is the most extraordinary publishing phenomenon in Italy with ten novels simultaneously still riding high in the bestseller-list. Among his foreign publishers: Diogenes, Michel Lafon, Presença, Duday, Ripol, Livani, Plaza y Janes, Bertrand Brasil, Colibri, Beobook, Znanje, Pegasus, Nha Nam Publ. Thai, Sodam & Taeil Korea.

# ALBANO CARRISI

## The Sun Within

Al Bano's incredible journey through four seasons of life: from humble beginnings to global fame, love, loss, and the wisdom gained from a life fully lived.



After turning eighty and still in great shape, Al Bano decided it was time to publish his definitive autobiography, revisiting his life's joys, successes, but also the moments of pain, mistakes, and abandonment. With the straightforwardness and wisdom that come with age, he tackles everything. The book is an unpredictable self-narration of an all-around artist and world-famous celebrity touched by both glory and tragedy. Divided into four parts, like the four seasons of his life, it covers his toiling spring, explosive summer, peak fall, and reflective winter. Al Bano touches our heartstrings with a moving yet often humorous story, filled with incredible anecdotes from sixty years of Italian history.

PP. 252

PUBLICATION: OCTOBER 2024

**AL BANO CARRISI** was born in Cellino San Marco (near Brindisi, in Apulia), on May 20, 1943. He recorded the song “Nel sole” on a 45-rpm vinyl in 1967, which turned into a massive hit and sold 1.3 million copies. He climbed the billboards with his records, ranking first in the hit parades in Austria, France, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany, Spain, and South America. His concerts took him around the world, from Japan to Russia, from the United States to Latin America, and were followed by millions of fans. He won twenty-six golden records and eight platinum records. Mondadori published his books *È la mia vita* (2006) and *Con la musica nel cuore* (2008).

## STEFANO BOLLANI

# The Time Of Extravagence

Stefano Bollani's genius came up with an original and enlightening way to talk about music and creativity.

In this work, fiction merges with music and author Stefano Bollani steps into the shoes of a clever historian from the future who starts studying our era two million years from now.

"It was an era when our planet was inhabited by Johann Sebastian Bach and Stevie Wonder. Think of what it would have been like to listen to Frank Sinatra singing with Domenico Scarlatti accompanying him on the harpsichord, or Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong accompanied by Chopin. The imagination runs wild. And now let's think about our musicians for a moment. They started playing by imitating the great musicians of the past, listening to them on Black Discs, those mysterious objects that can contain music, which were recovered after the second great flood. The legend says that we have to thank the protagonist of many of our legendary stories, John Lennon himself. Apparently, he was the one who took all the Black Discs he could carry in his arms and brought them onto the ark, along with a device that could contain the Black Discs and transform them into music. That is how music was saved from the second great flood and made it all the way to us."



PP. 144

PUBLICATION: NOVEMBER 2024

**STEFANO BOLLANI** is an Italian composer, a pianist, and a singer who also works as a writer, a theater actor, and a TV host. He studied jazz and, after graduating from the conservatory and working briefly as a session musician in pop music, he made a name for himself in jazz, playing on the most prestigious stages of the world and collaborating with some great musicians. Mondadori published his books *Parliamo di musica* (2013) and *Il monello, il guru, l'alchimista e altre storie di musicisti* (2015).

CAMILLO RICORDI

# Therapeutic Revolution

The New Drugs, Allies of Our Health

The revolution of semaglutide, the new ally of healthy longevity.



PP. 132

PUBLICATION: OCTOBER 2024

A scientific discovery is rattling the world: a new class of molecules that was being studied for diabetes actually revealed powerful anti-inflammatory and anti-obesity properties, with a considerable effect on healthy longevity.

The most famous one is called Ozempic, a medication made by a Danish pharmaceutical company. In 2023, it had a turnover of 500 billion dollars, and it is now receiving millions of orders from all over the world. The most prestigious medical journals, from the New England Journal of Medicine to Nature and The Lancet have green-lit and shared the discovery. The phenomenon of new anti-obesity medications is now exploding, sometimes in an uncontrolled manner. Everyone wants them, many use them, some abuse them. The eminent diabetologist Professor Ricordi explains what semaglutide is and how this active ingredient helps the body lower its blood sugar level, but he also warns readers about the risks involved in improperly using Ozempic and similar medications.

**CAMILLO RICORDI** is the director of the most important research center seeking to cure diabetes, which is located in Miami. His research has recently also focused on preventing the recurrence of the disease after it was successfully cured. He also launched the program Fit4Healthspan to promote healthy longevity and founded the organizations The Cure Alliance and the Diabetes Research Institute Federation. He is the author of over one thousand scientific publications and the recipient of several awards and important honors.

CLAUDIO OLIVIERI

# What They Don't Tell Mothers

**Raising Children According to Science Without Relying on Hearsay**

A practical guide to raising children without myths.

When a child is born, a parent is born too. And, by definition, a parent wants the best for their little one and immediately starts asking a thousand questions.

This handbook for parents provides simple and user-friendly instructions on the most relevant topics for caring for newborns and toddlers, debunking myths, urban legends, and those infamous in-law tips. The goal, however, is also—and perhaps most importantly—to help parents distinguish reliable sources from unreliable ones, to understand what science really says, and to choose what's best for their child. Arm yourself with humor and the scientific method, and enjoy the joys of parenthood without unnecessary anxiety, and with a few more smiles.



PP. 152

PUBLICATION: OCTOBER 2024

**CLAUDIO OLIVIERI** is a doctor specialized in Pediatric Surgery at the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart. He has published various studies in international journals, and in recent years, he has focused on scientific communication. With more than a million followers, he provides daily information to parents on topics related to children's health.

## BARBASCURA X

## The Scientific Satyr 4

## Cosmic Mind Trips

The fourth issue of the popular science magazine curated by Barbascura X, dedicated to “badly explained” science.



After an issue on sex, one on poop, and one on ugliness, this one is centered around astrophysics. It features educational articles, an interview with Samantha Cristoforetti, and comedic pieces that are nothing less than mind-blowing cosmic onanism about what we know—and, more importantly, what we don’t know—about black holes, space-time, wormholes, dark matter, and the fourth/fifth/sixth dimensions.

PP. 304

PUBLICATION: NOVEMBER 2024

**BARBASCURA X** is Italy’s most influential science popularizer. With a degree in organic chemistry and a PhD in green chemistry and production of materials from renewable sources, he has worked in major laboratories across Europe. He became famous on the Internet with his column “Scienza Brutta” (lit. “ugly science”), a series of parodic and irreverent pseudo-documentaries that explain the disturbing and lesser-known aspects of natural science. Between popularization and satire, he has brought science to theaters, conferences, and various TV shows.

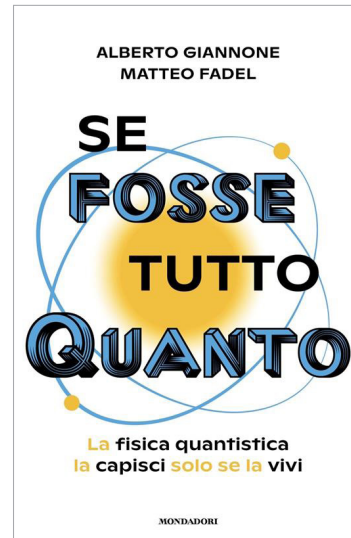
ALBERTO GIANNONE, MATTEO FADEL

# Quantum Everything

To Understand Quantum Mechanics You Have to See It

How to understand quantum mechanics and why Schrödinger's cat is both alive and dead.

Quantum physics is often explained through paradoxes, thought experiments, or images that are hard to understand because its theories are tested in a mysterious microscopic world. In this fascinating popular science text, Alberto Giannone explains quantum physics with the help of the physicist Matteo Fadel. They imagine a future in which its phenomena are visible to the naked eye in the macroscopic world we experience every day, even in the human body. Thanks to this book, we will easily understand how it is possible for Schrödinger's cat to be both alive and dead.



PP. 156

PUBLICATION: SEPTEMBER 2024

**ALBERTO GIANNONE**, aka DivulgaMente, is a science communicator with a huge following on social media (over 250,000 on YouTube, 140,000 on Instagram, and 600,000 on TikTok), where he combines experiments, stories, and anecdotes about physics.

**MATTEO FADEL** is a quantum physics researcher at the prestigious ETH Zurich, where he studies the boundaries between the classical world and the quantum realm.



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