

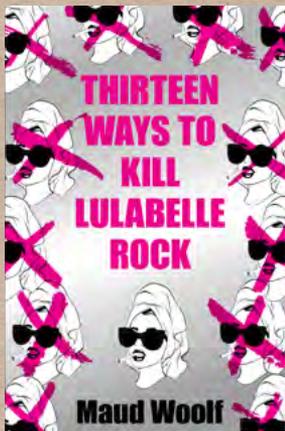
2023-2024

RIGHTS CATALOGUE

FICTION CATALOGUE



Eulama Lit. Ag.
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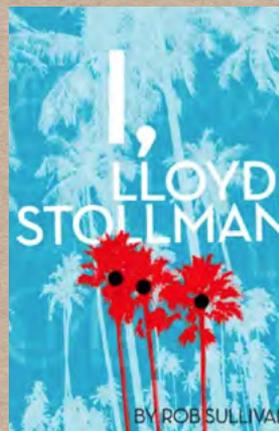


13 WAYS TO KILL LULABELLE ROCK

by **Maud Woolf**

Angry Robots, 245 p

**GERMAN RIGHTS SOLD.
FRENCH, SPANISH, ESTONIAN,
LATVIAN AND LITHUANIAN
TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE**



I, LLOYD STOLLMAN

by **Roe Sullivan**

Black Heron, 185 p

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS
AVAILABLE**

German rights sold to Fischer Tor in preempt!

A creepy, psychological exploration of the boundaries between awareness and conscience. A wonderful adventure and a metaphor of the social identities crisis.'

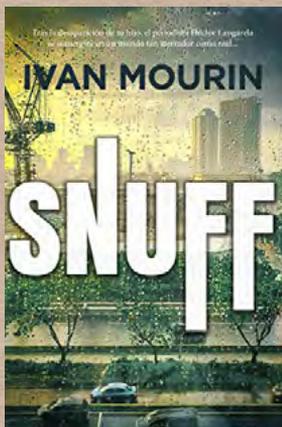
In a world of glitzy glamour and burgeoning technology, washed up star Lulabelle Rock employs a clone of herself to kill the other twelve versions of herself. Set in a world of the near future, the celebrity elite have access to a technology that allows them to make perfect copies of themselves, known as Portraits. These Portraits exist to fulfil all the various duties that come as the price of fame. Our protagonist is the thirteenth copy made of the actress known as Lulabelle Rock. Her purpose is very simple: to track down and eliminate her predecessors.

While initially easy, her task is made difficult by the labyrinthine confusion of Bubble City and the unfortunate stirrings of a developing conscience. When she makes the mistake of falling in love with one of her targets, the would-be assassin faces the ultimate question; when you don't want to kill yourself, what's the alternative?

Maud Woolf is a Scottish speculative writer with a particular focus on horror and science fiction. Her work has appeared in a variety of online magazines, including Metaphorosis Magazine where her short story 'The Stranding' was selected to appear in the Best of Metaphorosis 2020.

I, Lloyd Stollman is a crime novel, humorous and sinister at the same time. It deals with the mind of a man who becomes a serial killer against his will. It compares to Robert Louis Stevenson's Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, but has several alternate egos instead of only one, and features humor based on self-deceit rather than horror.

Lloyd Stollman is retired from the Dept. of Motor Vehicles. He lives in almost total social isolation in a bungalow of the edge of South Central Los Angeles. His isolation and his sense of being contained by forces beyond his control are so relentless that one day he outfits himself as a cowboy, and presents himself to the world as a bit player in famous movies. His success in passing himself off as another person is liberating, and encourages him to explore other personas he can inhabit. But there is a downside, which he realizes when one of his characters turns out to be a killer. Rather than Lloyd's portraying a character of his own creation, he is being inhabited by his characters. If he thought he could control them, that they allowed him liberation from social repression, he is ultimately disabused. He is no more in control of them than he was of himself, the anonymous, middle-aged white man known as Lloyd Stollman. The "character" of Lloyd Stollman is often sympathetic, even likable, sometimes funny in his surprise when things go wrong. This is a sinister book, but one also laced with humor,



SNUFF

by **Ivan Mourin**

Ilarión, 300 p

**GERMAN, ITALIAN, ROMANIAN
AND TURKISH TRANSLATION
RIGHTS AVAILABLE**



RESURRECTION

by **Ivan Mourin**

Ilarión, 378 p

**GERMAN, ITALIAN, ROMANIAN
AND TURKISH TRANSLATION
RIGHTS AVAILABLE**

A year and a half after the disappearance of his six-years old son, journalist Héctor Langarela discovers the terrible end he has suffered.

Tonet, a teenager with great computer skills, attends the funeral of a friend who has committed suicide because of something happened on the Internet. For his part, while making a round through a neighborhood in Barcelona, Deputy Inspector Félix Bataraz, demoted to street police, finds a chained and tortured girl, still alive. The desire for revenge and the eagerness to stop the culprits will lead these three strangers into the business of snuff videos, a world of disturbed childhoods, and a sick obsession for fairy tales.

With his usual mastery, Ivan Mourin plunges us into the terrifying and unhinged universe of the so-called "snuff movies", one that it is hard to believe can nest in the bowels of our society.

However, everything this formidable novel narrates is based on real events and situations, that we should not ignore as they are a more than tangible risk

What would I give to have the one I love back! This is what Moises Ojeda wonders. Moises is a writer. He has lost his wife Diana in a car crash. In the Hidden Drawer, a quite peculiar shop in Barceona's China town where strange esoteric objects pass from hand to another, the shop's owner offers him an ominous object, something that Moises should better not accept. It's a unique piece of ancient art capable of making Diana come back out of her ashes. But not alone: a being as old as time, that has been asleep for centuries, will arise with her, as a parasite, and it will turn alive again, full of hunger. Four people linked to the resurrected by an unknown bond will be dragged along by fear of a destiny they thought they had evaded, while in his particular hell Moses has to face the specters of the past, who claim more than his life. Ivan Mourin can awaken our deepest fears, letting us enter a world of darkness, ghosts and demons where Diana desperately searches for something that belongs to her. Perhaps we have it?

Ivan Mourin is a rising star in Spanish weird literature. He graduated from Criminology College with a major in Pathologist Anatomy, Entomologic Forensics and Behavior Psychology.

His first novel *Niños perdidos*, a vampirism related story inspired by Peter Pan, was published in 2005. *Sociedad Tepes* followed in 2009. *Resurrección*, the first of the saga "Crónicas del Caído", is his third novel.

As script writer and director of the short film "Intrusos" he obtained Mosaic Award at the 3rd Cinephone International Smartphone Shortfilm Festival and the Audience Award at the Phonetastic.



FABULOUS CHRONICLE OF MAMA ASYÁ AND HER OFFSPRING

by **Francesc Bellart**

La Campana, 256 p

**GERMAN, ITALIAN, POLISH,
ROMANIAN AND TURKISH
TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE**



THE CURSE OF THE SACRED SPEAR

by **Laura Falcó**

Esfera de los libros, 384 p

**GERMAN, ITALIAN, ROMANIAN
AND TURKISH TRANSLATION
RIGHTS AVAILABLE**

A dark and mysterious curse weighs on Poblenou neighborhood, in Barcelona. One morning a beautiful prostitute is found dead on the sand of the beach, with an expression of horror in her eyes and the mark of a rope around her neck. It's Katia Soloviov, born in unusual circumstances and brought up by the imposing Mama Asya, despotic owner of the neighborhood's brothel. When, days later, her funeral is to be held, the neighbors discover in amazement that the corpse of the young woman does not show the slightest sign of numbness or decomposition. Awestruck, people preach the miracle in the city streets, and Father Ramon sends one of his pupils to ask the Archbishop of Barcelona for advice. Meanwhile, Katia's body is deposited on the altar of Sant Bernat Calbó's church, where she receives daily the believers' visits from all over the country. One winter night, an individual named Serafi Carcosa, a disturbed man who lives in a shack near the beach, creeps in the church and stains the prostitute's incorruptible corpse. Next thing the neighbors discover is that the dead woman has got pregnant..

This is how this novel begins and –from early nineteenth century to the present day- abridges the story of five generations, mingling satire, tragedy, fantasy, sex, humor, romance, violence. Katia and Serafi's descendants must fight against their own destiny, to finally unveil the crime that set in motion the curse that chases them and untangle the spell.

Francisc Bellart is a Philosophy professor and editor. *The Indiscreet Editor*, his first novel, was very well received by both public and critics.

Award Odilo Mejor Autora XXI Semana de Novela Histórica de Cartagena

Whoever possesses the spear of Longinos will rule the world. But whoever loses it will meet their own death.

Eliza is a well-known English medium who earns a living with her family putting people in touch with their loved ones on the other side. In one session an incontrollable and terrifying spirit communicates through her and sets her daughter a strange and dangerous mission: to recover the spear of Longinos. Abby has no choice but to journey to Germany in the middle of the Second World War in search of the holy but cursed spear, which according to her sources is in the hands of Hitler himself. But to reach him she must adopt a false identity and infiltrate the ranks of the top Nazis.

Laura Falcó's exciting novel combines history and fiction with intrigue and romance.

Laura Falcó is a writer and editor of the magazines branch at Prisma Publicaciones within Grupo Planeta. She has collaborated with several radio shows and has participated as an advisor in the documentary *Imborrable*, by Indale Producciones, premiered at the Malaga festival. She is also the author of the storybook *Screams Before Death* and the successful novels *Chelston House*, *Last Call* and *Dawn of Ice*, as well as the essay *Echoes from the past*.



THE ENGLISH KNIFE

by **José de Cora Paradela**

Tropo Editores, 532 p

**GERMAN, ITALIAN, ROMANIAN
AND TURKISH TRANSLATION
RIGHTS AVAILABLE**



THE TREASURE OF GIRONA

by **Javier Pellicer**

Edhasa, 576 p

**GERMAN, ITALIAN, ROMANIAN
AND TURKISH TRANSLATION
RIGHTS AVAILABLE**

"I won't look at the Cibeles sculpture with the same eyes" - Xosé Antonio López Silva, Critic and specialist on XVIIIth century

Madrid: in the time when the Prado Hall -one of the most symbolic buildings of Carlos III' reign- was being built a murder shakes the city: a fifteen-year-old boy is found castrated and his male attributes thrown around one of the main monuments of the Paseo, that of Cibeles. The mayor's commissioner who is in charge of the investigation becomes convinced that the crime is related to the arrival of the Phrygian goddess, whose priests in their delirium offered her their masculinity.

Rumors taint the Princess of Asturias, María Luisa de Parma, so the King orders that she be spied on. But crimes do not stop and the city shakes in suspicion and terror.

A writer and a journalist, active in all media, **José de Cora Paradela** has written essays, mainly historical, narrative works as *The True Story of the Last Inquisitor* and *The Wonderful Oracle of Life*, and novels as *The Sneeze of the Butterfly*, *I'll call you Dead*, and *Mario speaks*. In 2019 he was awarded the Fernando Arenas Quintela Literary Prize.

The year is 1588. The defeat of Philip II's Spanish Armada has been complete. Battered and smashed, when on its way to Spain and sailing along the northern coast of Ireland God appears to unchain the elements against it: a terrible storm causes the shipwreck of more than twenty ships, even the robust Neapolitan galley La Girona.

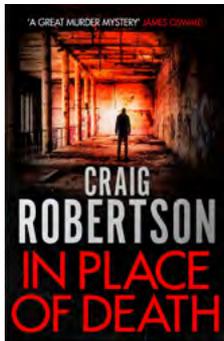
This is the story of one of the few survivors: soldier Joan Mateu of the Spanish Tercios. Exhausted, defeated, his dreams broken, he wanders aimlessly until he reaches Dunluce Castle. There, the Irish clan of the MacDonnells gives him shelter, and something hitherto unknown to him blossoms when he meets young Ealasaid. Luck is apparently changing, the demons may be left behind, but destiny has other plans...

With an admirably light and entertaining narrative, *The Treasure of La Girona* narrates a story full of twists, adventures and constant suspense. Peopled with unforgettable characters, set in Ireland, imbued with the history of Spain, this is a novel where adventure is at its finest.

Javier Pellicer started his literary career writing short stories, which granted him awards as the first Premio Cryptshow Festival de Relato Fantástico 2008. Many of his short stories have been published in anthologies as: *Fantasmagoria*, *Ilusionaria 2* and *Crónicas de la Marca del Este*. His first novel, *El espíritu del lince. Iberia contra Cartago* took him to the final selection of the award IV Premios de Literatura Histórica Hislibris. Afterwards came: *Legados*, *Leones de Aníbal* and *Lerna*.

THE TONY WINTER MYSTERIES SERIES

A BESTSELLING SERIES BY CRAIG ROBERTSON, NOW IN IT'S SIXTH EPISODE. A BRILLIANT, BREATH TAKING CRIME FICTION SERIES GAINING MORE AND MORE FAME AMONG MYSTERY FANS.



IN PLACE OF DEATH

6th Book of the series

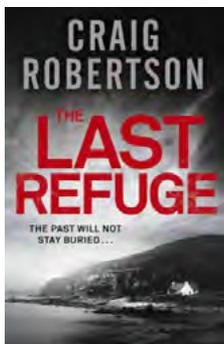
Simon & Schuster

448p.

SPANISH, BULGARIAN AND ROMANIAN TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE

A young man enters the culverted remains of an ancient Glasgow stream, looking for thrills. Deep below the city, it is decaying and claustrophobic and gets more so with every step. As the ceiling lowers to no more than a couple of feet above the ground, the man finds his path blocked by another person. Someone with his throat cut.

As DS Rachel Narey leads the official investigation, photographer Tony Winter follows a lead of his own, through the shadowy world of urbexers, people who pursue a dangerous and illegal hobby, a world that Winter knows more about than he lets on. And it soon becomes clear that the murderer has killed before, and has no qualms about doing so again.



LAST REFUGE

5th Book of the series

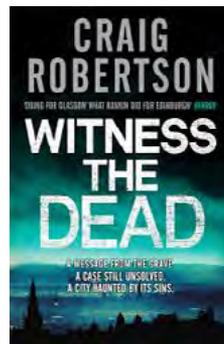
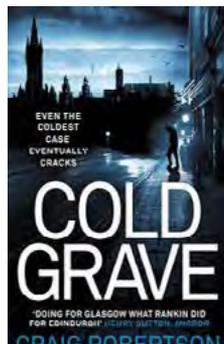
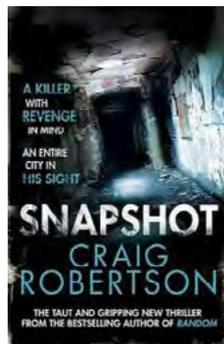
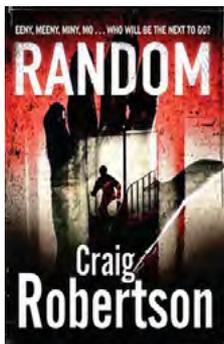
Simon & Schuster

388 p.

SPANISH, BULGARIAN AND ROMANIAN TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE

You can run from your past but you can never hide from yourself.. When John Callum arrives on the wild and desolate Faroe Islands, he vows to sever all ties with his previous life. He desperately wants to make a new start, and is surprised by how quickly he is welcomed into the close-knit community. But still, the terrifying, debilitating nightmares just won't stop. Then the solitude is shattered by an almost unheard of crime on the islands: murder. A specialist team of detectives arrives from Denmark to help the local police. But as tensions rise, and the community closes rank to protect its own, John has to watch his back. But far more disquieting than that, John's nightmares have taken an even more disturbing turn, and he can't be certain about the one thing he needs to know above all else. Whether he is the killer.

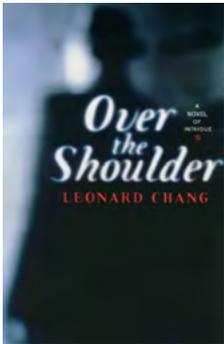
Also, in the same series:



During his 20-year career with a Scottish Sunday newspaper, **Craig Robertson** interviewed three recent Prime Ministers, attended major stories including 9/11, Dunblane, the Omagh bombing and the disappearance of Madeleine McCann. His debut novel, *Random*, was shortlisted for the CWA New Blood Dagger and was a Sunday Times bestseller.

LEONARD CHANG

Leonard Chang is a Korean American writer of short stories and novels, as well as a screenwriter and television writer who is currently a writer/producer for FX's *Snowfall*. His novel *Dispatches from the Cold* won a San Francisco Bay Guardian Goldie Award for Literature.



OVER THE SHOULDERS

1st book of the trilogy
Ecco, Harper Collins
388 p.

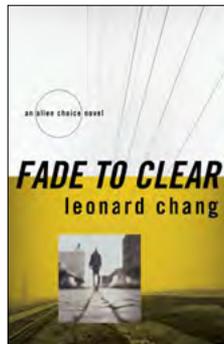
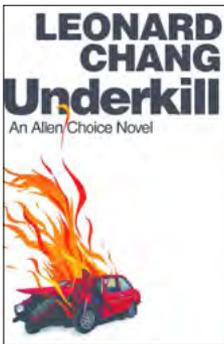
ALL TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE

A USA Today Summer Reading Pick and a finalist for the Shamus Award, *Over The Shoulder* offers a unique view of the American protagonist and reluctant investigator, shaken from the doldrums of his insulated life. Choice and his partner, Paul Baumgartner, are security specialists for Silicon Valley executives. When Paul gets killed on the job, Choice and an inexperienced reporter, Linda Maldonado, begin looking into the puzzling circumstances of the murder. As they work together to unravel the intricate threads of lies and half-truths, they discover that his death might be linked to the mysterious death of Allen's father some twenty years earlier.

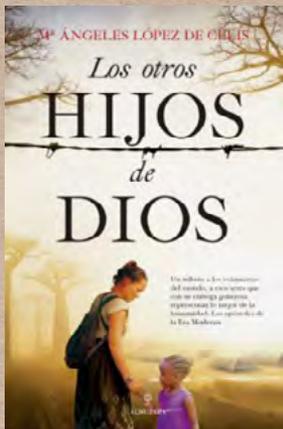
With his self-described "philosophy of removal" as his frame of reference, Choice searches for the hidden, long-buried answers, only to be outmaneuvered at every juncture. Against this backdrop of violence and deception, Choice soon discovers secrets that alter his understanding of his family.

"That I am a nobody doesn't bother me as it might some people. I prefer anonymity, unobstructed movement through a crowd with neither a first nor a second glance in my direction." Anonymity is both existential goal and survival skill for Allen Choice, who may call himself a Korean-American but who isn't particularly comfortable with the label. A Silicon Valley security specialist, Choice drifts through life the way he drifts through crowds: detached, isolated, neither particularly fulfilled nor particularly unhappy. He notes wryly, "I used to think I was in inertial rest, a body at rest remaining so. Once an outside force applied itself to me, I would be in motion. I liked this idea. It freed me, relieving me of the responsibility. I just had to wait for an outside force. But I soon realized this was an illusion... I decided to call it the inertial deception. I can't succumb to it."

The other two titles of the series:



Leonard Chang's first novel, entitled *The Fruit 'N Food*, was published in 1996 and won the Black Heron Press Award for Social Fiction that year, and is now taught at universities around the world. His second novel, *Dispatches from the Cold*, won a San Francisco Bay Guardian Goldie Award for Literature. *Crossings*, his sixth, was published in 2009, and *Triplines*, was released in 2014. His latest novel, *The Lockpicker* was released in 2017. All these titles are available for translation.



THE OTHER CHILDREN OF GOD

by **Mª Ángeles López de Celis**

Almuzara, 416 p

GERMAN, ITALIAN, ROMANIAN AND TURKISH TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE



THE POLAR BEAR AND THE HOPE FOR TOMORROW

by **John Ironmonger**

Fischer Verlag, 331 p

FRENCH, SPANISH, ESTONIAN, LATVIAN AND LITHUANIAN TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE

A tribute to the world's volunteers who with their generous dedication represent the best of humanity.

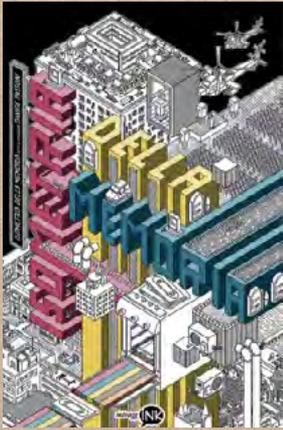
Elena, a Spanish diplomat and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, is about to begin the most important journey of her life. While she waits for her flight to Cairo, unravels her story and the powerful reasons that drive her to give her existence a one hundred and eighty degrees turn. Her commitment to the disinherited of the earth and her deep love for Diego Serrano, a member of Doctors Without Borders and an extraordinary human being, are determining factors in her decision. A moving story set in one of the poorest regions on the planet: the refugee camps of sub-Saharan Africa, where millions of human beings fight every day to win the battle against hunger, misery, war, disease and the worst of adversities: hopelessness. They are "The other children of God." A stormy love story that gives rise to a fascinating plot, with characters that captivate the reader and move to reflect on one of the most serious and complex dramas of our time: migratory flows.

Mª Ángeles López de Celis, (Madrid, 1957), with a degree in Psychology by the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and a career as public server, along thirty two years he has been a member of the Secretariat of the Spanish Presidency. In 2010 she showed part of the most private part of a president life in her book *Los presidentes en zapatillas* which obtained a huge success and large sales. She has been granted with the Cruz de la Orden del Mérito Civil (2006).

The village of St Piran, on the very toe of Cornwall, is a sleepy little place. Not much happens there. Until one evening, an angry young man and an arrogant politician have a very public disagreement in a harbourside inn. The consequences of their argument, and the deadly wager they strike, will cascade down the decades.

Tom Horsmith is an idealist. Young, driven, and smart, his bar-room humiliation of Monty Causley could have destroyed the career of a lesser politician. But every effort either man makes to put the past behind them draws them deeper into a web of circumstances neither can escape, leading them both a long way from St Piran, onto a colossal iceberg drifting south away from Greenland, where their only companion is a very hungry bear. A heart-stopping tale of ambition, friendship, love, and disaster. And a bear.

Previous titles by **John Ironmonger** have been published in Italy (Bollati Boringhieri Editore), the Netherlands (Uitgeverij Signatuur), Poland (Jagiellonian University Press), Portugal (Bertrand), Russia (AST) and Slovakia (Albatros). John's third novel, *The Whale at the End of the World*, was a huge bestseller in Germany, selling over 400,000 copies (and over 40,000 in the UK). John was shortlisted for the Costa First Novel Award and the Not the Booker for his debut *The Notable Brain of Maximilian Ponder*. *The Coincidence Authority*, published in France as *Le Genie des Coïncidences*, won the prestigious Prix de Lecteurs at Littératures Européennes 2015 and the Prix Bouchon de Cultures.



MEMORY ISOMETRY

by **Davide Passoni**

Miraggi Edizioni, 120 p

TRANSLATION RIGHTS
AVAILABLE



THE CHOSEN DAUGHTERS

by **Dino Cassone**

Les Flaneurs, 126 p

TRANSLATION RIGHTS
AVAILABLE

An illustrated experimental novel.

We have always been taught that there are three dimensions to define space, that is the reality in which we live. A fourth dimension, defines the time that passes. It exists for an additional, little-explored dimension capable of making us travel through space and time. This is the dimension of memories.

Through poems, documents and drawings made in isometric axonometry, this book provides the basic instructions for travelling into space-time.

Born in 1985, **Davide Passoni** is a poet, illustrator and musician. Graduated in Fashion Design, social animator expert in Music Therapy, former lifeguard, he has been attending the Poetry Slam stages since 2005. He wins the Dubito Award in 2014 and the Team Poetry Slam championship in 2018. In 2019 he becomes author and co-host of the Poetry Slam! on ZeligTv together with Paolo Agrati and Ciccio Rigoli.

“A dark fairytale, a legend beyond time, a fresco of relationships and ancient bonds, and a secret capable of shaking the very foundations of a family.” La Repubblica

Is destiny a personal matter or does it concern the journey of an entire family? This is the question that haunts Sole, as she introduces us to the domestic microcosm that she created together with her sisters.

A childhood of hardship, made even more difficult by a strict – to say the least – father. The happiness that comes with recognition, as the sisters become known as ‘the sirens with fiery hair’ thanks to their appearances in the Lazar Circus. But not even notoriety will be able to protect them from the curse that hovers over their lives. Sentimental crises and economical trouble, mourning and defeats conflicts and grievances follow one another in a chain of events that seem to have a single author: Destiny itself.

A passionate family saga about sisterhood which investigates the relationship between predestination and individual choices.

Dino Cassone is a journalist, a playwright and a writer. among his books: *La bugiarda*, which is currently being translated into Spanish, *Sorrisoni e veleni*, *A delicious ice cream to die for* and *Aperitivo fatale*.



MOTHS

by **Andrej Longo**

Marotta & Cafiero, 50 p

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS
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THE SNOW OF MARIUPOL

by **Monica Perosino**

Paesi, 183 p

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS
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It rains in Naples as the last ferry leaves from Porta di Massa to reach Ischia. Right there, in the port, Enzù and Tonino are meant to meet – an encounter that will change their lives forever. That moment seems to approach with the calm of night and the slowness of waiting.

As they wait, they talk about their city, about Pasquale Lumetta and Prévert. They wait and in the meantime their world breaks down and reassembles itself into small fragments of life. They wait and dream of Paris, which, like the moon for moths, is a bright spot that guides their movements, that pushes them to move forward.

Andrej Longo was born in Ischia in 1959. He has always written, but he held a plethora of jobs before being finally published. Among his books we remember the award-winning *Dieci*, winner of the Bagutta Award and finalist at the Bancarella Award, and *L'Altra Madre*, recently released by Adelphi. He also writes for the theater, cinema and radio.

And the snow kept falling in time with the bombs...

Based on real events, 'THE SNOW OF MARIUPOL' tells the story of the Russian invasion of Ukraine through the eyes of a woman. She bears the conflict on her shoulders, absorbs it through the dirt smeared on her skin, inhales it, consumes it. It is a war of sweat, toil, fear, mud, flight, it has the smell of petrol in cans and watermelon cigarettes, dirty laundry and trenches dug in the fertile earth now soaked in blood. Yet somehow, the world around the main character is predominantly feminine: volunteers, refugees, photographers, babushkas, peasant women who offer refuge and refreshment, and intellectuals who experience the laceration of the culture in which they grew up – all while the bombs come down with the snow.

And while the men are at the front, writing letters home that could have been composed in a trench in 1914 or 1941, it is the women who take over the reins of the country, as it has always been in wars since the dawn of time.

Monica Perosino was born in 1972 in Turin. With a degree in Philosophy, she has been a journalist for major newspaper La Stampa since 2001. Since 2013 she has mainly covered central and eastern Europe and the Nordic countries. As a correspondent she covered the events related to human and civil rights especially in Poland, Hungary and the Balkans and, more recently, the war in Ukraine, which inspired this book.



ALEK POPOV

Alek Popov was born in Sofia, Bulgaria, in 1966. He studied in the elite classical gymnasium in Sofia, graduated from St. Constantine Cyril the Philosopher College for Ancient Languages and Cultures in Sofia and later received his master's degree in Bulgarian language and literature from the Sofia University. In 1997, he attended the English Language Institute at Wayne State University.

His first novel, *Mission London*, was published in 2001. It has been widely acclaimed as "the funniest contemporary Bulgarian book" for its sarcastic projection of the diplomatic elite. So far, it has been translated and published into 12 languages. A film based on the novel was released in 2010.

Popov's second novel, *The Black Box*, was published in 2007. It came out in German under the title *Die Hunde fliegen tief* (*Dogs Are Flying Low*) and in English. In January 2014, *The Black Box* won the 2013 U.K. contemporary Bulgarian novel contest of the Elizabeth Kostova Foundation, organized in cooperation with Peter Owen Publishers. The book has also been translated in Serbian, Turkish, Polish and Italian.

Popov's third novel, *Sister to the way of the new world* (2013), headed the Top 10 list of best-selling titles in Bulgaria, and won the 2013 Helicon Prize for new Bulgarian literary prose.

Over the years, Alek Popov has published 6 collections of short stories. These collections were published by the German publisher Deutsche Taschenbuch Verlag under the title *For Advanced*. They have been translated into German, Hungarian, Polish, Serbian, Czech, French, Danish, English and Turkish.

Alek Popov has won several literary awards including:

- the National Radio's Pavel Veshinov Award for the best criminal short story;
- the Graviton Award for best science fiction;
- the Raško Sugarev Award for best short story;
- the prize Helicon for best prose book of the year, 2002 and 2013;
- the annual prize of Clouds magazine for the English translation of *Mission London*, 2004;
- the National Prize for Drama Ivan Radoev;
- Elias Canetti Prize for his novel *The Black Box*, 2007;
- The Flower of Helicon Award;
- the United Bulgarian Banks Award for book of the year 2007.

In October 2012, Alek Popov was elected a corresponding member of the Bulgarian Academy of Science in the field of Arts. He serves in the board of the Bulgarian PEN Center and is part of the editorial body of the prestigious literary magazine *Granta Bulgaria*.



MISSION: TOURAN

by **Alek Popov**

Ciela, 412 p

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS
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THE BLACK BOX

by **Alek Popov**

English edition:

Peter Owen, 416 p

**DANISH, GERMAN, ENGLISH,
ITALIAN, SERBIAN, SPANISH,
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The new satirical novel by Alek Popov: a modern story that explores society by means of irony, in which everyone gets what they deserve.

An elderly man dies in a remote Bulgarian village. He is 92 years old, he is the last person living in the village and no one would have noticed his death, were it not that, due to it, the country's population fatally falls below 7 million people, leading the demographic decline in the EU and triggering waves of panic in national politics. People are starting to wonder: are we going to disappear? Will there still be any Bulgarians in the next hundred years? Is it the fault of democracy or the EU?

The country's president - a staunch nationalist facing re-election - is determined to do something. Of course he could open the doors of the country to thousands of migrants, but he cannot do it, because he was elected promising that Bulgaria would be open to Bulgarians only. But where to find them, when those who have emigrated do not want to return? So the president sends an anthropological expedition to find Bulgarians around the world for him to take home. After a short time, anthropologists proudly report that in a remote region of Central Asia they have found a population resembling the Proto-Bulgarians who left some 70 generations ago. The president is thrilled. Firstly, if these people get Bulgarian passports, it means that the country will have 7.5 million people again; and secondly, he could make a deal for them to vote for him in the next presidential election...

Original Language: Bulgarian

From dog walker to millionaire, from millionaire to dropout: two brothers from Bulgaria seek their fortune in America and, in the end, find their father's ashes.

A small black box full of ashes is all that Ned and Ango, two very different brothers from Bulgaria, have left of their father. It has been 15 years since their father, a mathematician hovering between genius and madness, died under mysterious circumstances in America as a visiting professor. Their father has long been nothing more than a ghost to them until the paths of the two brothers cross again, far from their homeland, in New York. Ned, the good-for-nothing, has made it to the top on Wall Street while Ango, the smart one, walks dogs for snobs in Central Park. But then the tide turns and the ghost of their father suddenly comes to life again.

Alek Popov does away with old fairytales. His new novel was at number one for weeks in the bestseller lists in Bulgaria. It is a satire of gold diggers in the West and the East, of the yearning for happiness shared by successful people and underdogs, and of the wrong impressions we immediately form of each other when a world divides us. East or West, top or bottom, dead or alive: let us be brothers! Racy, witty and damned bite-eager.

Original Language: Bulgarian



PALAVEEV SISTERS 1&2: IN THE STORM OF HISTORY/ON THE WAY TO THE NEW WORLD

by Alek Popov

German Edition: Residenz Verlag, 328 p

HELIKON AWARD for best fiction of 2013. THE FLOWER OF HELIKON Prize for best selling book of 2013. SHORTLISTED FOR Elias Canetti Prize 2014. SHORTLISTED FOR THE ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE DUKE OF WESTMINSTER MEDAL

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A two episodes story.

Although the second novel can be read on its own as a separate piece, **the two parts together form a kind of a saga** encompassing the period between 1943 and 1953 and an ironic gaze on one of the most dramatic episodes in European history: Partisan movement and the communist propaganda.

In *Palaveev sisters: In the storm of history*, the eponymous twin teenage sisters from middle class backgrounds, Kara and Ira, are on the run from the authorities. They have joined a Partisan group based in the Balkan mountains. The Partisans are a mixed bunch of young and old communists and Peasant party members, all dedicated fighters against the Bulgarian monarchist regime and their German allies. Many have adopted colourful nicknames and Commander Medvev, who is a former refugee, speaks Bulgarian with a heavy Russian accent.

From the start, the pretty twins seed confusion in the hearts of the fighters. Only a few hours into their adventure, the rebels are attacked by government forces, led by the fearsome captain Night. The few survivors find safety in the Forbidden Wood. Lost in the mountains on the border between Bulgaria and Serbia, the twin sisters Kara and Ira are left to the mercy of the elements and separated.

The Cold War finds the Twins on the opposing sides of the Iron Curtain..

Original language of both novels: Bulgarian

Palaveev Sisters: On The Way To The New World is a new chapter of the story.

The plot unfolds following the audacious lives of both sisters. As their life gets more complicated, the sisters grow and evolve from teenagers into young women. Their characters deepen, as do their sexual experiences. The spell of ideology dwindles to give way to a strife for individual freedom – the mark of the imminent 1960's. Kara returns to Sofia hoping to reconcile with her parents and just to witness a bomb hitting the house before her eyes and killing her parents. During a raid, Kara is turned in to the police but with the help of a senior party activist she manages to escape. "Uncle" Angel will however prove himself unworthy of trust. Ira has lost her memory and the partisans give her the nickname Snejana (Snow). After a passionate but brief love affair with a Yugoslav partisan commander, Ira is rescued by a downed British airman, Ralph, who leads her to London with him and where they get married. Kara's fate, too, is linked to London, where she joins a KGB officer to his new assignment.

The year is 1953, only a few weeks after Stalin's death. During mass at the Brompton Oratory, a mysterious young lady (Ira) approaches the altar of St. Valfre and takes out a small container from under the statue. It contains an encrypted message. A few hours later, she enters the "King's Coffin," a bar in Soho, where her sister is waiting... the most unexpected of double agents. Overcoming old grievances, Popov writes with a healthy sense of humor (pitch-black at times!) and profound irony, going way beyond the picking of sides in an effort to grasp the internal paradox of human nature.



BRENNUS

The Celt who defied Rome

by **Francisco Narla**

Edhasa, 624 p

GERMAN, ITALIAN, POLISH, ROMENIAN AND TURKISH TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE

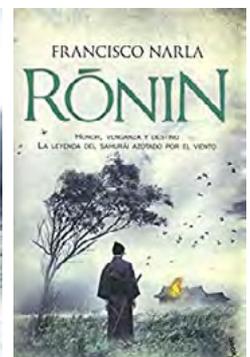
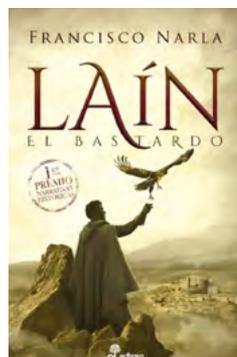
Brennus is only a child when a treacherous attack razes the fort of Lagouzos where his father was the commander. He was the only survivor and took refuge on the coast, away from the clans. Those who did not die were enslaved in almighty Rome's greatest gold mine in Gallaecia where the Roman, along with bridges and roads, were also bringing destruction both of the land and of old customs. Tana, one of the last Sisters of the Order, weaves a plan to prevent this from happening. The young woman -destined to lead men- believed it possible. She persuaded the clans to put aside their old quarrels and unite against the invader. She went and looked for Brennus in order to involve him.

Meanwhile from Rome, Nero cries out for revenge and howls absolute conquest. Never before so many legions had been assembled. The watchword was to kill anyone who could hold a weapon. Brennus had started and rebel against the invaders.

Together with Tana, he will face the most powerful empire of all time. She united the clans, he challenged Rome.

Francisco Narla has published novels, stories, poetry, essays and practical books. In 2009 he published his first novel, *Los lobos del centeno*, which, after its success in Spain, was published in Mexico for sale throughout Latin America. *Caja negra*, his second work of fiction, was released in November 2010. Two years later the great success arrived on the name of *Assur*, his third novel, an historical adventure which became not only a bestseller but also a longseller which still occupies a won place on book stores' shelves. And *Ronin*, 2014, set the foundation to make out of Narla one of the most representative authors of Spain becoming as well a very sold novel. *Donde aullan las colinas* is his most personal work and has become a brilliant milestone in his career. *Laín* was a bestseller with more than 25.000 copies sold and won the Edhasa Narrativas Stóricas award.

Also available, by the same author:





SINCE I LOST ALL MY GODS

by **David de Juan Marcos**

Lince, 320 p

GERMAN, ITALIAN, ROMANIAN AND TURKISH TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE

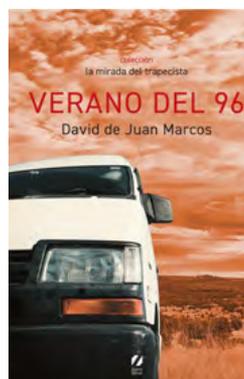
Desde que me quedé sin dioses (Since I lost all my gods) is the true story of Momo Handal, a Palestinian refugee living in Malmö (Sweden) due to the Syrian Civil War.

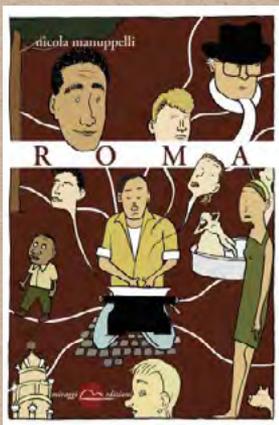
The author meets Momo, a Palestinian refugee from the Syrian civil war, in 2018 and decides to tell his story and that of his family: from the Palestinian Catastrophe of 1948, his childhood and youth in Damascus and the 2011 revolution, to prison, torture and exile, first to Denmark and then to Sweden, where he still lives and works with adolescents fleeing the war. Halfway between a novel, a memoir and a diary, this true story of a double exile is also an analysis of survivor's guilt and the prejudices faced by an Arab immigrant in Europe.

"I met Momo in the summer of 2018. Since then we have worked on the story of his family. The book begins in 1948 during the Nakba (Arabic word for "catastrophe") and reaches the present time. It goes through Momo's childhood and youth in Damascus, the Syrian Revolution of 2011, his time in prison where he was tortured and, finally, the exile, first to Denmark and then to Sweden where he currently lives with his German girlfriend and works with teenagers who have also fled war."

David de Juan Marcos has seen most of his stories published and awarded, among which are *My old boy* (International Short Story Award Crossing Cultures), *Of pirates and thieves* (International Short Story Contest, Short). In 2005 he obtained a scholarship at the Antonio Gala Foundation for Young Creators, where he began writing his first novel, *El baile de las lagartijas*; an amazing story, which has given him the promise of becoming a recognized and respected author, being compared to great masters such as García Márquez. In 2016 his second novel, *La mejor de las vidas* (HarperCollins Iberica), was expected. *Thief of virgins* was his third novel (2017; HarperCollins Iberica)

Also, by the same author:





ROME

A Cinecittà Love Story

by **Nicola Manuppelli**

Miraggi edizioni, 144 p

PREMIO
STREGA

Longlisted Premio Strega

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THE PELLICANIS

by **Sergio La Chiusa**

Miraggi Edizioni, 192 p

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A portrait of Rome and its leading personalities in the roaring 70's.

Cinecittà, the seafront of Ostia the neighborhood of Pigneto during a late *dolce vita*: cinema, Fellini, foolish actors and tender Roman summer nights vividly pictured through the eyes full of wonder of young Tommaso, who has just arrived in the Capital to pursue a career in journalism.

Rome in all its glory welcomes him to his scandals and gossips, the glittering lights shining on its starlets and famous actors, each one of them after their own dream of success. In this dreamy scenario Tommaso meets Judy, an English girl trying to become an actress, with whom he shares the hazy space between being spectators of one's own life and getting to be protagonist.

Nicola Manuppelli is a writer, translator and curator. Among the authors who were translated and published in Italy thanks to his scouting: Andre Dubus, Charles Baxter, Jane Urquhart, Roger Rosenblatt and Don Robertson. His articles appeared on the Chicago Quarterly, Numéro, D di Repubblica. He has published two novels, a collection of poems and several short stories published in anthologies both in Italy and US.

Shortlisted for Premio Bergamo 2021, Special mention for 32nd Premio Calvino and Finalist of the Premio Fondazione Megamark, *The Pellicanis* is a rare novel of great narrative richness.

Young Pellicani is a chatterbox. He shows up one evening late in his father's home, the home he had left twenty years earlier after stealing savings from a drawer. The building - a six or seven-storey condominium - is almost in ruins. But the name "Pellicani" on the top floor door bell is still there, the door barely ajar. Young Pellicani - in a slightly torn gray suit, a briefcase just to add some character - plans to stay one night then go: he has business in China, he claims. Father will have forgotten the events of twenty years earlier and will gladly welcome him, he guesses, then finds an old man stuck in bed and thinks that it's not his father...

Sergio La Chiusa is a poet - his book *Interred* (LietoColle, 2005) was shortlisted for the 2006 Montano Prize - and a writer - his travel prose and excerpts from novels are featured in cultural magazines and blogs. *I Pellicani* was shortlisted at the XXXII edition of the Italo Calvino Prize, where he was awarded with the "Treccani Special Mention 2019" for its linguistic originality and expressive creativity.

"Rarely does the reading of a novel give so much pleasure for the writing in itself; and rarely such a narrative richness is so casually crammed into a single novel, in a single apartment, almost in a single room."
Giulio Mozzi

LUCA RAGAGNIN

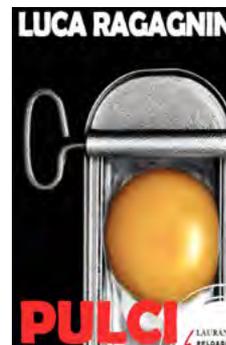
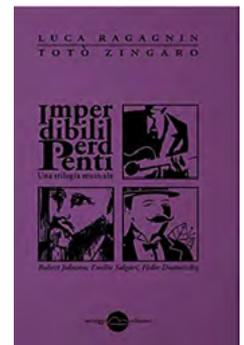
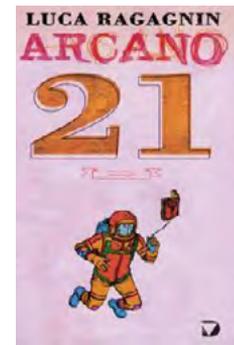
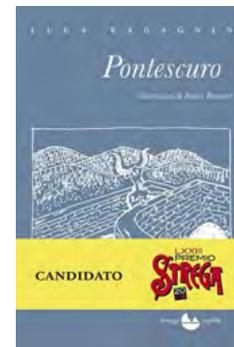


Luca posing next to his portrait as seen by photographer Guglielmina Otter

Luca Ragagnin was born in Turin in 1965. He is an Italian novelist, poet and lyricist. His collections of short stories have been published in literary magazines since the early '80s. In 1995, a collection of his poems won the Montale Prize and was read by Vittorio Gassman in the television series "Cammin leggendo" after being published by Scheiwiller. He is the author of many successful plays, written on his own or in collaboration with famous playwrights of the likes of Enrico Remmert, Emanuele Conte, Andrea Liberovici, Michele Di Mauro, Murcof and Lella Costa.

His novel *Gloombridge* (*Pontescuro* in its original Miraggi Edizioni edition, 2019), was shortlisted for the most important Italian literary prize, the Premio Strega and is about to be published in the U.S.

Among his other novels: *Marmo Rosso* (Baldini & Castoldi, 2014), *Arcano 21* (Del Vecchio Editore, 2014), *Agenzia Pertica* (2017), and *Winking Child*, published in 2022, both by Miraggi Edizioni.

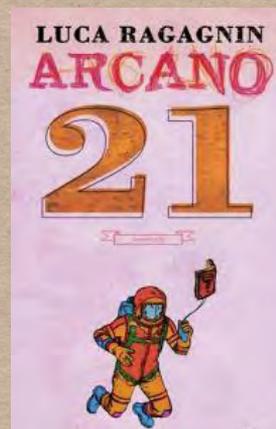




PERTICA AGENCY

by **Luca Ragagnin**
Miraggi Edizioni, 176 p

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ARCANA 21

by **Luca Ragagnin**
Del Vecchio Editore, 496 p

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A very sad comic novel.

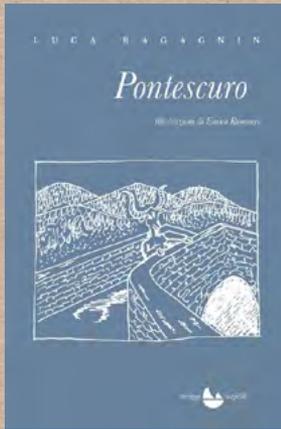
Domizio Pertica is a failed author, who has written twenty-six novels who only have one thing in common: the public failure. Domizio decides to give up writing and devote himself to another activity, as a private detective, and opens the Domizio Pertica Divination & Lies Uncovering & Alibi. Collaborators of the company, Venus Diomede, a blonde Prague girl in skimpy clothes, met in a filthy bar, with whom he shares the sad Turin attic, and an alcoholic Indian blackbird named Zappa. Nothing should be taken for granted in this novel, not even the fact that, as an animal, Zappa does not speak. The agency's peculiar aim is to provide alibis to offenders. But all that, which is written, is a lie in itself, misleading and dismantling its own tale during the telling, in a carousel of different realities which are funny and amusing, but carry an aftertaste of defeat and loss.

"A surreal narrative that owes a debt to noir literature, but also to South American magic realism, to the delusions of Venedikt Erofeev, to vodka and to a long tradition of texts representing chaos and frenzy in the global postmodern society." - Lorenzo Mazzoni on Il Fatto Quotidiano

"*Agenzia Pertica* by Luca Ragagnin is an irreverent book that mocks the reader, a false thriller that - digression after digression - turns out to be an exercise in metaliterary awareness, a somewhat dreamlike, a little dizzy and reckless journey into the world of storytelling" - Alessandra Chiappori

Arcana 21 is a journey into the wonderful world of bookstores as seen from within. A long-time bookseller narrates his descent into the underworld of the book market with all its circus of grotesque and hilarious characters, as well as gruesome and surreal situations. Next to them another absurd group of characters make their show: The characters of the narrator's most beloved books, from Don Quijote to Siddharta and Don Ciccio Ingravallo, commenting and giving their prospective on the events. Mental images - or maybe perhaps not - those latter characters become more realistic than the real ones: their intervention breaks down the linear succession of events, linking them with irony and satire.

And then, suddenly, a third narrative thread casts light on the path to follow: a wisteria, which is born and blossoms, and whose destiny is firmly linked to that of the protagonist.



GLOOMBRIDGE

by **Luca Ragagnin**

Miraggi Edizioni, 160 p

PREMIO
STREGA

Shortlisted Premio Strega

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INTERMITTENTLY BERG

by **Luca Ragagnin**

Miraggi Edizioni, 672 p

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Shortlisted for Premio Strega 2019, and winner of the International Egi Volterrani Prize.

In this novel both victims and witnesses – be they humans, animals or things – are given the chance to speak in a catching dialogue delving into the depths of human nature. The setting is Pontescuro, along the river Po, in the lower flatlands where the fog always lingers, in the north of Italy. The year is 1922, and Daphne, the beautiful and scandalous daughter of the local landlord, is found dead, with a red ribbon tied around her neck. This event unleashes envies and nastiness among the poor village dwellers, as the girl was desired by the same men who despise and deplore her and had gathered the hatred of their women. The landlord makes every effort to punish the culprit... well, a scapegoat more likely. Daphne had known power of seduction and had used it to take revenge against her father and those people who hated and desired her at the same time. Embarrassingly enough the one who won her heart was the village idiot, a countryside wanderer who would talk to birds, trees and rivers. An unacceptable bond, one that had to be broken by whichever means...

Through the short tales whispered by the wind, the priest, the bird, the village idiot, the jealous priest's housekeeper, the fog and the police detective, the story unfolds and truth comes to the surface, revealing the little horrors hidden in the depths of human hearts and their misery.

Little Berg lives with his mother. Grown-up Berg sees an industrial landscape from his window, among this two ages events take place. Objects become important and then irrelevant. Words substitute objects while the child changes names and identities. He has a father who owns a yellow Beetle with pink dots and teaches him the names of trees and mushrooms. He has grandparents in the city who educate him to the philosophical use of agnolotti and the contemplation of Lego blocks. He has sea-faring grandparents who accompany him in his growth, from a kitchen with a window overlooking the waves or from a magical closet. Berg grows up reshaping reality, in a continuous pouring of imagination.

As a child he has many "enemies", he gradually gets familiar with the metaphysical danger of objects, the inexorability of other people's thoughts, the years of lead. As a boy -amazed and incredulous -love and the awakening of an entire industrial city. As an adult, the strength and abandonment, the mute crowding and a loneliness that sizzles with its many inner voices. He finds God in a beach cabin - then loses him in an underground canteen.

A composable and intermittent story that jumps among the eras of Berg's life, which are also the eras of our recent history and which are, perhaps, the eras in the life of all of us, displaying the fragmented ego we all try to piece together.



STEFAN ZWEIG

The Year Everything Changed

by **Raoul Precht**

Bottega Errante, 224 p

TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE EXCEPT POLISH

Shortlisted for the Premio Comisso 2022

1935 was the year when everything changed: for Stefan Zweig, who had to deal with a marital crisis and increasing publication difficulties; and for all of humanity, as the Nuremberg Laws made Jews second-class citizens.

In his novel, Precht analyzes the climate of that decisive year with intimate involvement, almost identifying himself with Zweig as he reflects on himself and his work, unable to oppose the spread of Hitler's ideology, for Jewish intellectuals and for she prophesied that the whole world of culture would fall into an abyss whose contours could only be guessed at the time. 1935 was the year when his wife Friderike became aware of his relationship with his secretary Lotte Altmann. In fact, the novel opens with the entry of Friderike, who discovers them while kissing. From this episode, a series of events related to the gradual distancing of the couple will branch out in the course of the book. In fact, during that long 1935 they will try to maintain a semblance of stability despite Zweig's continuous hindrances and movements.

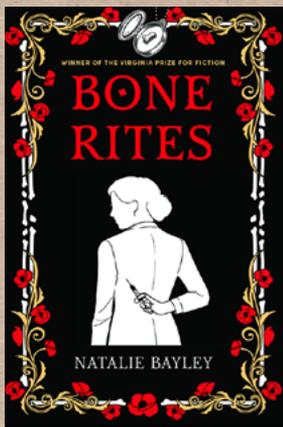
1935 was, indeed, the year when, following an initial confrontation with the local police, Zweig decided to leave Salzburg and Austria and temporarily settle in Great Britain, while continuing to travel and meet writers and artists with whom he was friendly, from Thomas Mann to Joseph Roth, from Sigmund Freud to Arturo Toscanini. The many different places where he came to be, on both sides of the ocean and around Europe give name to the chapters of the book.

In these journeys the reader witnesses minor issues in Zweig's life, when compared with the major events he describes in his writings.

This book is in fact a quite different narrative from those to which we are accustomed with Stefan Zweig: Precht's narrative is turned inwards, in an aim to show that hidden part of Zweig that in his texts and epistolary exchanges does not show: rather than showing Zweig's gaze on the world, Precht shows the world's gaze on Zweig, from the very first lines, starting from his wife Friderike. In the twelve months of 1935 Zweig conceived the book on Castellio and Calvino, his most eloquent work from a political point of view and his personal manifesto against Nazism. Also, in 1935 the first signs show of that meandering weariness that will bring him -seven years later- to decide to end it, in a sort of homage to another famous "double suicide", the one of Heinrich von Kleist.

In an impassive and moving style Precht sheds light on Zweig's familiar and psychological aspects, the ones that drove him to suicide and are usually got rid of with the Pilate formula "he suffered from depressive crises". It is a fictional new perspective on the writer's life, a point of view that could turn up one's nose at first glance, but soon shows to be an increasingly valid and intriguing chance to appreciate and understand the inmost details of Zweig's world.

Born in Rome in December 1960, **Raoul Precht** lives in Luxembourg. He is the author of four novels and three volumes of poetry, one of which was reworked for the stage.



BONES RITES

by **Natalie Bayley**

Aurora Metro, 320 p

**ITALIAN, GERMAN AND POLISH
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THE GREAT SECRETS

by **Sytse van der Veen**

Aldo Manuzio, 240 p

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PORTUGUESE AND SWEDISH
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"I collected the first bone when I was twelve. This fact was not mentioned in court... Such a tiny little bone, more like a tooth. I only kept it to keep him safe."

Kathryn Darkling, imprisoned in Holloway, is facing death by hanging for her vengeance killing. Haunted by a spirit, she still hopes to perform the ancient black magic that will free her soul, or her struggle to punish the mighty will have been in vain. Will the love of her life come to her aid? Or can she find a way to escape her fate?

Winner of The Virginia Prize for Fiction, *Bone Rites* is a dark, literary tale of love, loss and one woman's obsessive fight for justice and redemption within a ruthless world.

"Completely gripping from the get-go, Natalie deftly builds such a complex story that has you rooting for a character you know you shouldn't." – Literary agent Hellie Ogden, judge the Novel Prize

"We loved the chilling voice and strong sense of place her writing offers." – Author Kiran Millwood-Hargrave, Blue Pencil Awards judge

Natalie Bayley is the author of *Bone Rites*, *Lolita's Daughter*, *The Secret Life of Grandmothers*, *The Witch Who Saved Paris* and *The Lady Lyttle Murder Mystery series*. Her dark thriller *Bone Rites* was selected for the 2019 Blue Pencil long list, went on to be shortlisted for the 2021 Blue Pencil First Novel Award and was long listed for the 2021 Caledonia Prize before becoming the Winner of the Virginia Prize for Fiction 2022.

After the violent death of his great love Cathy, the young writer and bread baker Lennard Zomers decides to delve into her past. He loved her, but discovers that he hardly knew her. To find out who she really was, he enlists the help of his friend Arthur Visser, an ambitious brain scientist. Arthur initially holds off the boat. He is concerned with completely different things: with nothing less than the secrets of life and death. If, after a while, he declares himself willing to help Lennard, he soon discovers that he has to pay a high price for this.

An intelligent and exciting novel about life's big questions: about love, the (im)possibility of knowing others and yourself, God and our brain.

Also, by the same author:





THE HIDDEN MEN

by **Vincenzo Cundari**

Paesi Edizioni, 117 p

TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE



HIS MAJESTY'S DRAGON

by **Daniele Cellamare**

Les Flaneurs, 294 p

TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE

“They were through with the war; not with the aftermath, though”

The collapse of fascism, the end of the Second World War and the chaos after Mussolini.

Captain Antelmi is an agent of the OVRA, the sprawling fascist secret police. Loyal to the regime, during the Second World War he carried out the missions assigned to him by simply obeying orders. But after the war, with fascism defeated and Italy in ruins, a fringe of the SS hunts him down. Having found refuge in a Carthusian monastery in Calabria, Antelmi spends months in silence pondering his next move. He meticulously plans the escape that will take him back to Rome to settle the final scores, and dreams of one day meeting his beloved in Germany again. Pieces of history that have slipped into the meanders of our collective memory emerge from reading, a historical thriller with a pressing narrative, in which truth and novel merge into a fascinating plot with an unusual point of view.

Vincenzo Cundari was born in 1951 in Paola. He graduated in experimental physics at the University of Pisa, and was an officer in the Air Force. He has held numerous technical-scientific positions in Italy and abroad as head of organization and meteorological support to the flight departments in operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. He was Permanent Representative for Italy to the United Nations World Meteorological Organization with the rank of general. He published the novel *Decima Legione - Dalla Magna Sila ai confini del mondo* and *Il perdono di Francesco* (Aglampì).

In February 1839, a squad of Chinese soldiers marches in the foreigners' quarter of Canton, drives a stake into the bank of the Pearl River, and hangs an Englishman accused of smuggling 'Black Earth'. This is the beginning of a dramatic spiral of violence between England and the Daoguang emperor, who has unsuccessfully tried to ban opium consumption and trade.

Against the backdrop of clandestine opium dens, political intrigue and ruthless economical machinations, two people incur in the simplest accident of all: meeting and falling in love. He is Shaoran, a young man trying to rise through the ranks of Pirate Queen Ching Yih's army; her name is Maylin, and she was sold as a child to a rich silk trader.

Realizing the hopelessness of their affair, the two attempt to escape and seek refuge among the rice fields of a small village. Months later, they are discovered and have to run a gain - this time, carrying their newborn son with them. With the help of two British deserters, they reach Nanking, where they seek passage across the sea. Their pursuers, however, will not let them go easily...

A lively, highly detailed reconstruction of a little explored theme and time period, Cellamare's novel is sure to enthrall its readers.

Daniele Cellamare is a former professor at the Sapienza University of Rome. He has collaborated with national television channels and various national and foreign publications. He has published four historical novels: *The Fortress of God*, *The Charge of Balaklava*, *The Alati Hussars*, and *His Majesty's Dragon*.



A LOOK AT THE EAST

Reportages, Memories, Tales
of a fascinating Continent

by **Dacia Maraini**

Marlin, 240 p

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A LOOK AT THE NEW WORLD

Reportages, Memories, Tales
of the American Continent

by **Dacia Maraini**

Marlin, 256 p

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A look at the East is a collection of reports, memories and stories by Dacia Maraini on Afghanistan, China, Korea, Japan, India, Iran, Palestine, Pakistan, Syria, Tibet, Turkey, Vietnam, Yemen, and more. These are texts that convey the writer's narrative rhythm in full, along with her love for travelling, telling stories and drawing characters from faraway places, just like her grandmother Yoi, father Fosco and mother Topazia did. Countries as her dear Japan of which she remembers the years of the Nagoya internment, the victims of the atomic bomb, the deaths from "overwork", the women's emancipation and the charm of Noh theater. Maraini also narrates the countries she visited with Maria Callas, Alberto Moravia and Pier Paolo Pasolini: from China, ready to take "the last ride towards capitalism", to Yemen, afflicted by war and famine, and to India, with episodes of rape and femicide on the rise. Particular attention is paid to current issues such as the Syria civil war and the courageous protest of Afghan women against the restrictions imposed by the Taliban regime.

Dacia Maraini is the author of novels, short stories, plays, poems and essays, published in over fifty countries. Awarded with the Campiello, Strega, Hemingway and many other prizes, in 2020 she received the Viareggio Lifetime Achievement Award. Among her books: *Inside the words* (2005), *Dacia Maraini in the kitchen* (2007), *Daily alphabet* (2021) written with Gioconda Marinelli, *A look at the East* (2022) and *A look at the New World* (2023), all available.

A look at the New World is a collection of reports, memories and stories by Dacia Maraini on Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, the United States, Uruguay, and more. Over the years, the famous writer has dealt with important episodes in the history of the American continent: from the desperation of the mothers of the disappeared (Argentina) to the brutal Pinochet dictatorship (Chile), John F. Kennedy's death, the Afro American civil rights movement, the 1968 student protests, the moon landing, the women's rights movement, the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, Presidents George W. Bush, Barack Obama and Donald Trump, the #MeToo movement (United States).

Maraini also speaks of poetry as a force capable of saving languages at risk of extinction (Colombia); of Fuentes and Paz's greatness, of the two Taibos, and of young writers (Mexico); of Fidel Castro and Elián's story (Cuba); of the "theatre of civilization" (Uruguay); of American colleges (United States).

Along with an in-depth analysis of the issues dearest to her (women's rights, death penalty, torture, emigration, social marginalization, racial and sexual discrimination, etc.), these Maraini writings allow a deeper understanding of a distant yet close world as the American continent.



WASTE OF TIMELESSNESS AND OTHER EARLY STORIES

by **Anaïs Nin**

Ohio Swallow, 376-400 p

**BULGARIAN, DUTCH, FINNISH,
NORWEGIAN, ROMANIAN AND
SWEDISH TRANSLATION RIGHTS
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COLLAGES

by **Anaïs Nin**
with an Introduction by
Anita Jarczok

Ohio U.P., 170 p

**BULGARIAN, DUTCH, FINNISH,
FRENCH, ITALIAN, NORWEGIAN,
ROMANIAN AND SWEDISH
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Written when Anaïs Nin was in her twenties and living in France, the stories collected in *Waste of Timelessness* contain many elements familiar to those who know her later work as well as revelatory, early clues to themes developed in those more mature stories and novels. Seeded with details remembered from childhood and from life in Paris, the wistful tales portray artists, writers, strangers who meet in the night, and above all, women and their desires.

These experimental and deeply introspective missives lay out a central theme of Nin's writing: the contrast between the public and private self. The stories are taut with unrealized sexual tension and articulate the ways that language and art can shape reality. Nin's deft humor, ironic wit, and ecstatic prose display not only superb craftsmanship but also the author's own constant balancing act between feeling and rationality, vulnerability and strength. Perhaps more than any other writer of the twentieth century, she mastered that act and wrote about it on her own terms, defying the literary and social norms of the time.

Anaïs Nin (1903–1977) is an iconic literary figure and one of the most notable experimental writers of the twentieth century. As one of the first women to explore female erotica, Nin revealed the inner desires of her characters in a way that made her works a touchstone for later feminist writers. Swallow Press is the premier US publisher of books by and about Nin.

A transplant from Vienna to Malibu who is driven by her urge to observe and depict those around her, Renate is "the freest woman I know." Working at the Paradise Inn restaurant, she encounters a series of people whose stories make up a larger collage: Henri the chef; Count Laundromat; Varda the artist and his teenage daughter, Nobuko the actress; the French Consul in the Hollywood Hills; an aged lifeguard with a spiritual longing for the sea; and Bruce, the intimate friend with an unnerving secret. First published in 1964 and now reissued with a new introduction by Anita Jarczok, *Collages* showcases Anaïs Nin's dreamlike and introspective style and psychological acuity. Seen by some as linked vignettes and by others as a novel, the book is a mood piece that resists categorization. Based on a close friend of Nin's, Renate is the glue that holds the pieces, by turn fragmentary and full, together. One character absorbs a lesson from the Koran: "Nothing is ever finished." With each of Renate's successive encounters, we take that message to be true.

And, of course, the diaries:





WINTER OF ARTIFICE

Three Novelettes

by **Anaïs Nin**

Ohio Swallow, 148 p

BULGARIAN, FINNISH, NORWEGIAN, ROMANIAN AND SWEDISH TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE

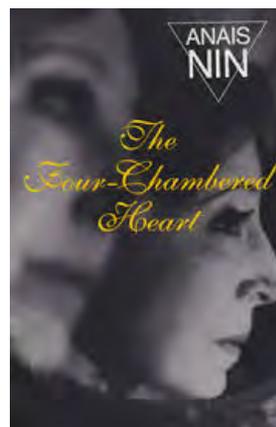
Winter of Artifice was first published in 1945. The book opens with a film star, Stella, studying her own, but alien, image on the screen. It ends in the Manhattan office of a psychoanalyst - the Voice who, as he counsels patients suffering from the maladies of modern life, reveals himself as equally susceptible to them. The middle, title story explores one of Nin's most controversial themes, that of a woman's sexual relationship with her father. *Elliptical*, fragmented prose, unconventional structure, surrealistic psychic landscapes, presents an important opportunity to consider anew the work of an author who laid the groundwork for later writers.

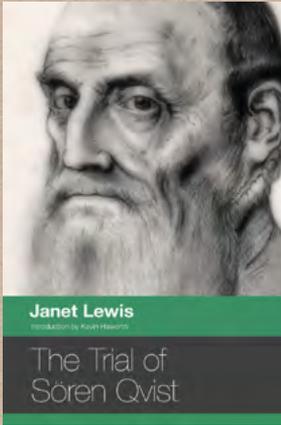
Winter of Artifice represents a literary artist coming into her own, with the formal experimentation, thematic daring, and psychological intrigue that became her hallmarks.

"The lead female characters begin small and damaged and eventually emerge at the other side more complete people at the expense of the men in their paths. But Nin accomplishes this with such delicacy and style that one would swear there was no other way." - Bookslut

Anaïs Nin (1903–1977) is an iconic literary figure and one of the most notable experimental writers of the twentieth century. As one of the first women to explore female erotica, Nin revealed the inner desires of her characters in a way that made her works a touchstone for later feminist writers. Swallow Press is the premier US publisher of books by and about Nin.

Also available, by Anaïs Nin:





THE TRIAL OF SÖREN QVIST

by **Janet Lewis**

Ohio U.P., 112 p

BESTSELLING AUTHOR

FRENCH EDITION OF ALL THE TITLES OF THE SERIES BY LAFFONT. THE SECOND BOOK "THE TRIAL OF SOREN QVIST" AND THE THIRD BOOK "THE GHOST OF MONSIEUR SCARRON" ARE AVAILABLE FOR: GERMAN, SPANISH, ITALIAN, BULGARIAN, DUTCH, FINNISH, NORWEGIAN, ROMANIAN AND SWEDISH. EACH TITLE IS AN INDEPENDENT STORY.

"Probably (The Trial of Sören Qvist) is the most perfect of Janet Lewis' novels, and among the most perfect of any novels." Fred Inglis, *Critique: Studies in Modern Fiction*

"The perfect novel of its genre."
New York Times

"You know from the beginning what has happened—that a man has been executed for a murder no one in the small Danish community believes he committed. Yet circumstantial evidence points to him. By the end, he has convinced himself he is indeed guilty, and would rather die with a good conscience, forgiven by God, than struggle to live." Meredith Sue Willis's Books for Readers

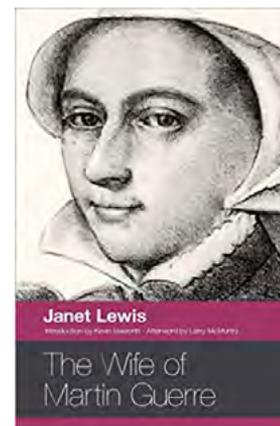
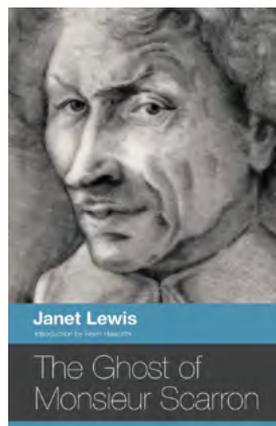
Based on a notorious seventeenth century trial is one of three novels making up **Lewis's Cases of Circumstantial Evidence**

Also, by the same author:

Janet Lewis was a novelist, poet, and short-story writer whose literary career spanned almost the entire twentieth century. The New York Times has praised her novels as "some of the 20th century's most vividly imagined and finely wrought literature." She taught at both Stanford University and the University of California at Berkeley. Her works include *The Wife of Martin Guerre*, *The Trial of Sören Qvist*, *The Ghost of Monsieur Scarron*, *Good-Bye, Son* and *Other Stories*.

THE FIRST TITLE OF THE SERIES "THE WIFE OF MARTIN GUERRE": GERMAN EDITION BY DTV, SPANISH EDITION BY PENGUIN, ITALIAN EDITION BY RACCONTI EDIZIONI. BULGARIAN, DUTCH, FINNISH, NORWEGIAN, ROMANIAN AND SWEDISH TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE.

EACH TITLE IS AN INDEPENDENT STORY.





ONE OF US

by **Daniele Zito**

Miraggi Edizioni, 128 p

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THE SECRET NAME

by **Olga Gambari**

Miraggi Edizioni, 384 p

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A dark, disturbing and gripping read.

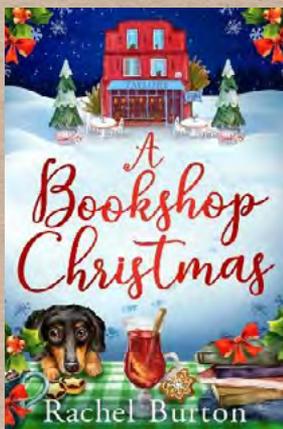
At the end of a soccer match, four old friends decide to set fire to a slum. There is no precise reason after the act, just the euphoria of the moment. Unfortunately, their bravado turns into tragedy and leaves indelible traces on all them. *One of us* is the account of these events, as seen and lived by all the characters involved, both the victims and the executioners.

A harsh book, a story of anger, hatred and frustration, which speaks of weak fathers, of their faults, of their useless repentance. It speaks of a town's soft underbelly, of its inexorable racism and impossibility of forgiving.

Daniele Zito is a novelist and a journalist. His contributions appeared on the *Indice del mese* and *Che fare*. His first novel was published in 2013, *La solitudine di un riporto* (Hacca). His second novel, *Robledo* (2017, Fazi) was translated and published in France. In 2018 the novel *Catania non guarda il mare* was released and published by Laterza.

Eva is twelve years old when her younger sister Sara dies by drowning. Eva's parents react to the dramatic loss by erasing every trace of her existence - they will never even speak her name again - leaving Eva alone in her grief. The girl finds refuge in mutism at first and develops eating disorders later. Years pass and the shy girl gets a chance to start over when, thanks to a school project, she leaves for Cardiff, England. She will return home only fifteen years later, aged thirty, with the precise aim of gathering information on her sister and thus reconstructing her existence. In these fifteen years, Eva has erased herself, becoming Nicky in Cardiff, Blu in Paris, Viola in Berlin, Dora in Palermo, Lili in Bologna, Nives in Barcelona... In every city in which she lands she becomes a different woman, but as the words have it: you can't outrun yourself, no matter how hard you try. In Berlin she will finally meet Lupo, who is also a fugitive: he has left the hippy community in which his parents have raised him to become a circus performer. Lupo will introduce Eva to his "chosen family" the one that accepts him and with whom he travels from circus to circus to perform and live according to the bohemian lifestyle he feels comfortable with, tracing a new path for Eva, one which will perhaps enable him to discover her real name, her secret name.

Olga Gambari is an independent art curator, critic and journalist. She was artistic director of The Others Art Fair, of the international independent art festival Nesxt and director of the editorial project artesera. She teaches History of Contemporary Art and Phenomenology of Contemporary Arts at the IED-European Institute of Design.



A BOOKSHOP CHRISTMAS

by **Rachel Burton**

Aria, 416 p

**GERMAN, FRENCH, SPANISH,
ESTONIAN, LATVIAN AND
LITHUANIAN TRANSLATION
RIGHTS AVAILABLE**



MATCH ME IF YOU CAN

by **Sandy Barker**

Boldwood, 381 p

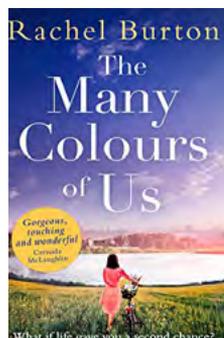
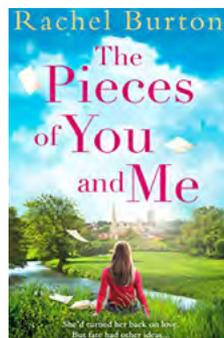
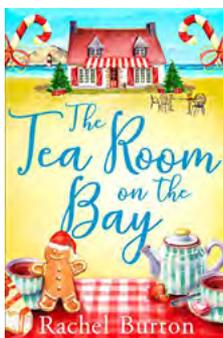
**GERMAN, FRENCH, SPANISH,
ESTONIAN, LATVIAN AND
LITHUANIAN TRANSLATION
RIGHTS AVAILABLE**

A brand-new heartwarming Christmas novel from the beloved author of *The tea room on the bay*.

A snowstorm. A stranger. A spark. And it's Christmas! It should be the perfect start to the perfect love story. But real life is far messier and more complicated than in the pages of the books in Megan Taylor's family bookshop – the last few years have left this young widow in no doubt of that. Moving back home to York should have been a fresh start, but all it did was allow her to retreat from the world. When prize-winning author Xander Stone rams his supermarket trolley into her ankles and then trashes her taste in books, Megan is abruptly awoken from her self-imposed hibernation. It's time to start living again, and she's going to start by putting this arrogant, but sexy stranger at his place...

Rachel Burton has published three books with HQ (HarperCollins), and is now on a two-book contract with Aria, Head of Zeus.

Also, by the same author:



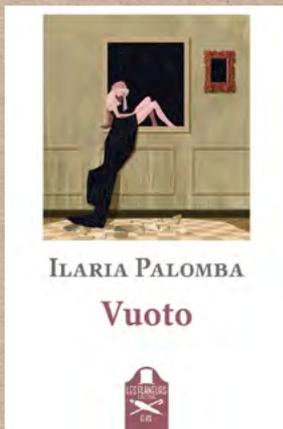
Welcome to the Ever After Agency – a clandestine organisation offering bespoke solutions to romantic problems. Whether you're looking for the love of your life, a fresh romantic start, or just want to keep up appearances, the agency can tailor a solution to meet your needs.

When Tristan Fellows walks into the agency, Poppy Dean knows she's in for a challenge. A typical bachelor, Tristan has no intention of falling in love, but in order to receive his 30-million-pound inheritance, he must find himself a wife before his 35th birthday. This may be Poppy's hardest case yet, but even the most arrogant of men can sometimes warm a woman's heart...

'With smart banter and swoony moments against a backdrop of Greece, Edinburgh and London, Sandy Barker gives us another brilliant romcom and joyful read.' Pernille Hughes, author of *Ten Years*

'A wonderfully warm and witty will they/won't they romance. *Match Me If You Can* is a perfect romantic read.' Kathleen Whyman, author of *Would You Ask My Husband That?*

Sandy Barker's first novel, *One Summer in Santorini*, a romantic comedy set in Greece, was published in June 2019 by One More Chapter (HarperCollins). Santorini sparked a 5-book series with *That Night in Paris* and *A Sunset in Sydney* in 2020, and *A Sunrise over Bali* and *A Wedding in Tuscany* in 2022. She is also the author of *The Dating Game* and the Christmas Romance series: *The Christmas Swap* and *The Christmas Trip*.



EMPTINESS

by **Ilaria Palomba**

Les Flaneurs, 267 p

PREMIO
STREGA

Longlisted Premio Strega 2023

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IF I HAD TO BE AN APPLE

by **Emma Saponaro**

Les Flaneurs, 440 p

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS
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Candidate to Premio Strega 2023

Iris, 30 years and an aspiring poet in the crowded literary scene of Italy, creates and destroys her own world in a dizzying, implacable rhythm. A seemingly normal, bourgeois life hides an ugly truth made of drugs, medication, regular trips to the hospital, and suicidal ideas.

Emptiness traces a year in her life, from summer to summer – fragments of her life that alternate a dream-like state and cold, almost cruel lucidity. In an attempt to find true serenity instead of the fleeting pleasures with which she distracts herself, Iris embarks in a merciless reconstruction of her relationship with her lovers, one of whom died a suicide, and her father, a psychiatrist. Thus she reconstructs her original wound – the rape by a friend when she was only 14. The episode which left her with the emptiness which she so desperately wants to fill.

Between fiction and memoir, Emptiness paints a merciless and irredeemably honest portrait of living with psychic pain, and the search for meaning which the entire Millennial generation is going through.

Internationally published writer and poet **Ilaria Palomba** is one of the most promising voices to rise in Italy's literary scene in the last decade. Among her works: *Fatti male* (German edition by Blumenbar, Tu dir Weh), *Homo homini virus* (winner of the Carver prize), *Disordini di luminosità*, *Brama*, *Città Metafisiche* and *Microcosmi*.

The journey of liberation from the shackles of a suffocating marriage.

Rebecca is a meek housewife, undisputed queen of the apartment which over time has become a reassuring gilded prison in which to bury herself, giving up any ambitions.

Her life flows peacefully, between stoves and dormant yearnings, chores and a strict timetable. Until a seemingly innocuous comment bursts her bubble, revealing the truth: her husband Leopoldo, the authoritative philosophy professor, is nothing more than a boring, chauvinistic couch potato with a hypertrophied ego and the vitality of an ectoplasm. Thus a journey of discovery begins for Rebecca; the infinite possibilities of the internet, a host of bizarre characters, the world around her, and most of all... herself.

Light yet surprisingly deep, Emma Saponaro's second novel places her amidst the best household names.

Emma Saponaro graduated in pedagogy, she was coordinator of the editorial board of the magazine *Famiglia e Minori*, for which she published articles of a psycho-legal nature on issues related to adoption, abandonment and violence against women. She was co-creator and co-curator of the charity project *Parole di Pane* which ended with the publication of two homonymous anthologies (Farnesi Editore, 2013; Giulio Perrone Editore, 2014). She has published several short stories in online magazines and anthologies. Her debut novel is *Come il Profumo* (Castelvecchi, 2017).



THE IMPERFECT RULER

by **Carmine Mari**

Marlin, 608 p

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THE FLOWER OF MINERVA

by **Carmine Mari**

Marlin, 432 p

TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE

Winner of the National Literary Prize Borgo di Albori award

Intrigue and alchemy at the famous Salerno Medical School: will a berry, its mold and the secret of Charaka be enough to save the reign of Frederick II?

Salerno, 1239. Rogerius is a brilliant student of the famous medical school. His passion and curiosity lead him to explore new fields of knowledge. He is about to complete his studies when an elderly magister, eaten away by illness, summons him to his bedside and begs his mercy. Rogerius respects the wish of the dying man; but what have I ever forgiven him?, he wonderspuzzled. "Find the cylinder before they do," the master had told him, "sanguis draconis," his last words. What is behind that sentence, apparently meaningless? The young man will try to answer this question delving into his family's past, alembics, electuaries, healing herbs, exotic substances and miraculous preparations. This is the beginning of a mystery that thickens day after day; a rebus made up of lies, crimes, never dormant grudges, not ruling out a perverse thirst for knowledge and the secret of Charaka, a medicine made from a berry with portentous effects.

The political clash between Pope Gregory IX and Emperor Frederick II transforms the city into a battlefield, dragging Rogerius into the fray against cutthroats, magistri in search for glory, nobles and men of God fighting for the conquest of power.

Winner of the Book TSD Summer Cup 2022

1551. A buried secret emerges from the earth with a flower in her hair. The 16th century is marked by passion, blind faith and court intrigues: barbarian pirate ships infest the Mediterranean and Henry II, king of France, never renounced his ambitions of domination over Italy, relying on the discontent of the Neapolitan nobility, intolerant of the Spanish policy of the viceroy of Naples Don Pedro Alvarez de Toledo. In Salerno, the former conquistador Héctor of Extremadura is in the service of Prince Ferrante Sanseverino. The cannons of his ship sink down a French brig, and the commander is the only survivor. The man carries an encrypted letter with him and some documents that Héctor delivers to the stratigote Marcantonio Villano. A series of murders and the disappearance of the letter will shake the astute Isabella Villamarina, wife of Prince Ferrante and a devoted subject of Emperor Charles V. Her husband's alliance plans with the King of France are as ambitious as they are dangerous: accusation of treason would be their undoing. For Héctor it will be a complex investigation that will intertwine with another mystery: the discovery of the skeleton of a little girl, found in the garden of Costanza Calenda, a fascinating and expert herbalist. He will have to dig into a story whose roots go back to the expulsion of the Jews from Spain.

Carmine Mari has also published *Il regolo imperfetto*, awarded the National Literary Prize "Borgo di Albori" and the novel *Hotel d'Angleterre*, a spy story with a historical background, winner of the Literary Prize "Giallo al Centro".



THE MEDUSA ENIGMA

by **Alessandro Luciano**

Marlin, 272 p

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THE QUEEN OF THEBES

by **Annamaria Zizza**

Marlin, 160 p

TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE

Between the halls of the National Archaeological Museum and the alleys of Naples, Captain Lorenzo Ricci will have to solve a theft and face a dangerous criminal organization with courage and cunning.

The Farnese cup, one of the best-known Neapolitan masterpieces, disappears from the Naples National Archaeological Museum. Investigations are assigned to Captain Lorenzo Ricci, of the Cultural Heritage Protection Unit. When in Naples, the captain makes use of Salah Hamid's collaboration, the local section's marshal, and of Luigi Benitozzi, factotum of the museum and trusted man of the director. The investigations is complex, but Lorenzo finds a precious witness in Mauriello, an eccentric employee of the museum, who is in possession of an enigmatic "verbal map", which apparently leads to the stolen artifact. Following this lead, the captain is thrown into the most mysterious places of the city, and into a temporal dimension ruled by the glorious Neapolitan past and lured by pagan religiosity. The clues that emerge intertwine with the meanings evoked by the Farnese cup, its arcane depictions and its tormented history. Throughout the investigation, the city is shaken by another tragic event, the kidnapping of Mayor Ferraris. It's up to Ricci to find out whether there is a link between the two crimes.

Alessandro Luciano is the author of historical novels *The last days of Commander Pliny*, and *Saracen Black*, as well as of books on archeology. He has been the coordinator of tharchaeological excavations at the Abbey of S. Vincenzo al Volturno for about ten years and currently works at the Naples National Archaeological Museum.

A compelling story, ignored by the history books: during the dynastic crisis in Egypt, a woman rebels against her destiny by making a courageous gesture and defying the laws of her time. We are in the period of full expansion of the Hittite empire, equipped with a formidable and still unknown weapon: tempered iron. An evocative narration that makes use of tight dialogue. A singular novel about the story of two empires and two women, Ankhesenamon and Malnigal.

Thebes, capital of Egypt, in the 14th century BC. Widowed of Pharaoh Tutankhamun, his beautiful and childless wife Ankhesenamon sends a letter to the king of the Hittites devising a plan to guarantee the descendants, in attempt to pacify her country and to give an heir to her kingdom.: a marriage. After some incertitude the Hittites are convinced to join the young queen by Menthuotep, sent by the queen as ambassador, and accept the proposal. They have long been waiting to conquer Egypt. They know they are stronger in battle because they know the secret of tempering iron, still unknown to other populations, who continue to forge bronze to build their weapons. The Hittite king, who married the Babylonian Malnigal, a dangerous and ambiguous expert in black magic, will send one of her sons, Zannanza, to marry the Egyptian queen, but things are never as simple as they seem.

Passionate about Near Eastern civilization, **Annamaria Zizza** collaborates with the Egyptology and Archeology magazine *Ancient Mediterranean* and has published the historical novel *Lo scriba e il Faraone* (2021).

Eulama's Staff is looking forward to hearing from you!
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