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This is not a chronicle of “exemplary” women; on the contrary, these women were seen as “witches” by women themselves. Ten stories of non-conformist women, troublesome, often unpleasant, and extremely talented. In the King Arthur saga, Morgana was the powerful and dangerous sister of the more reassuring king who wielded the magic sword. She is the ideal godmother for the women selected for this book: Vivienne Westwood, the designer who revolutionized the world of high fashion, the former figure skater Tonia Harding, Shirley Temple, the Brontë sisters, Marina Abramovich, Saint Catherine, Moana Pozzi, Moira Orfei, Grace Jones, and the women of Game of Thrones. None of these ladies embodies the gentle and sacrifice-prone feminine nature: they are indomitable even by the standards of today’s emancipated feminist women.

Michela Murgia (Cabras 1972) is the author of the celebrated international bestseller Accabadora (2009), Premio Campiello e Mondello International, and of many other bestselling novels and essays. Chiara Tagliaferri is the author of successful radio broadcast for RAI and is cooperating with “Storielibere”, a podcast platform.
Waking up one morning and not knowing if you still love the woman sleeping next to you, the woman with whom you built a life and a family. You don’t know how it could have happened. You took it for granted that it could never happen to you and maybe that is why you weren’t careful. You indulged in the luxury of getting distracted, of looking out of the window, of enjoying the landscape; and when you started to not like the view anymore, when it stopped being what you imagined, it was too late to go back.

There wasn’t a specific event, a situation, a betrayal, or even a real problem that launched us away from one another. It wasn’t an explosion that drew us apart, it was a slow and silent process made of small imperceptible steps. I noticed it one day when we turned over to face each other and realized we were on opposite sides of the bedroom - it was hard to believe.

**Fabio Volo** (born near Brescia in 1972) writer, actor, tv and radio presenter, is the most extraordinary publishing phenomenon in Italy with eight novels simultaneously still riding high in the bestellers list. Among his foreign publishers **Diogenes, Plaza y Janes, Rosa dels Vents, Bertrand Brasil, Kinneret, Presença, Muza, Fleuve Noir, Dudaj, Ripol, Pegasus, Znanje, Livani, Beo-Book, Colibri, Solo Press Taiwan, Nha Nam Publ Thai, Europa Hu, Sodam & Taeil Korea.**
The Ancients believed that signified and signifier, that word and reality coincided perfectly. For them, an object or a person existed only if there was a name to call it by. And that name was never given at random: it revealed its essence, its most hidden secrets. Nowadays, language has changed, the means of communication have changed, but it is still important to feel the words that burn inside us. To understand them before we use them. Because “without words we are cut off from reality, fossils, traces with no more self-awareness”. This means that we need to know the origins and deeper meaning of the words we use, even the ones that got buried in the sands of time. After all, that is what etymology is: understanding and sometimes re-discovering the world through words and their hidden meanings.

“Andrea Marcolongo is today’s Montaigne”
André Aciman

ANDREA MARCOLONGO (Milan, 1987) is a Classics scholar, journalist and writer. Her La lingua geniale (a declaration of love for Ancient Greek) was a bestseller in Italy and in many of the dozen countries in which it has been published. Europa Editions just released the English edition under the title The Ingenious Language.

She is also the author of La misura eroica, rights sold to Les Belles Lettres (F), Taurus (E), Patakis (GR), Wereldsbibliotheek (NL), Buybook (BIH), Ayiné (BR).

French rights already sold to Les Belles Lettres.
Enrica Bortolazzi with Monaci di Camaldoli

Nel silenzio dell’eremo

In the Silence of the Hermitage

Seven days to find the interior life

For the first time in history, the eremitical Camaldolese monks have decided to share their millenary wisdom with the general public. To do so they chose a woman, Enrica Bortolazzi, and welcomed her in their hermitage for a week.

Enrica’s mind was used to the chaos of her many commitments but it started to quiet down, day after day, thanks to the peace of that sacred place, the walks in the forest, and the talks with the monks. She started experiencing the authentic meaning of existence that slowly started to flow, in the silence that is sometimes deafening, in the solitude that gets populated by unresolved conflicts, in nature that becomes a mirror for her, in the simplicity of the cell where it is impossible to escape from one’s shadows, in the unchanging psalm chanting, and in the meals eaten in silence.

After spending seven days in a hermitage, she returns to the city regenerated in her body and soul, ready to bring into her daily life the profound lessons that she learned along the way.

**Enrica Bortolazzi**, a journalist and a yoga instructor, together with Franco Berrino (epidemiologist and among the world’s leaders in the field of nutrition and healthy longevity) founded the association La Grande Via, that organizes at La Mausolea (an ancient building in the Camaldoli area) special retreats combining healthy foods, regular exercise and meditation techniques to cultivate the mind and the spirit.

**Camaldoli**, founded one thousand years ago by Saint Romuald, is a Community of Benedictine monks. Immersed in the depth of the forest in the heart of Tuscany, there are two houses, the Hermitage and the Monastery, that represent the two fundamental dimension of monastic experience: solitude and communion.
Patrick Fogli
Il signore delle maschere
The Lord of the Masks
An unrelenting, adrenaline-fueled novel

There is a man of a thousand faces, a skilled and heinous assassin who manages to infiltrate the Vatican and kill the Pope on behalf of a cardinal who seeks to replace him. Nobody knows him, but they call him Charon because he always leaves an ancient coin in his victims’ pocket: according to the legend, that is the price a soul has to pay to cross the river that separates the land of the living from the realm of the dead.

There is Maria, the first link in a secret organization that offers innocent and unhappy people a way out of their lives and the chance to start over somewhere else with a new identity.

And then there is Laura, a shy, solitary university professor. Her students fear her, but nobody really knows her.

The three of them couldn’t be more different on the surface, but they are actually closely intertwined, and they can’t even fathom how close Charon is…

PATRICK FOGLI (born in Bologna in 1971) is the author of several thrillers, all published by Piemme. His previous book A chi appartiene la notte (2018) won the Premio Scerbanenco, the highest crime fiction award in Italy.
Rome: Salvini’s administration went down after a boat of migrants sank in front of a closed port. A new government is in power, supported by the Democratic Party and the Popolo dell’Onestà. The Prime Minister, however, is weak and the new Minister of the Interior is planning a take-over. In this fragile political scenario, Cardinal Michelangelo Aldrovandi (the only conservative who had earned the Pope’s trust) is found dead in mysterious circumstances. The scandal is covered up. But Sister Remedios, the nun who was taking care of him, finds a cell phone; on the device there are photos containing a detail that would directly compromise the new Minister. When the phone is unfortunately lost, several people start looking for it. Many would be willing to kill to get their hands on those photos, which could topple both the government and the Vatican. A former spy, Leone Di Castro teams us with Sister Remedios, forming an investigative duo that is full of surprises.

**Aldo Cazzullo (Alba, 1966)** is a special correspondent for the newspaper “Corriere della Sera.” His immensely popular essays on history and Italian identity have sold over a million copies. **Fabrizio Roncone (Rome, 1963)** is a special correspondent for the newspaper “Corriere della Sera.” In 2016 he published with Rizzoli *La paura ti trova*.
We Are Palermo, in other words, we are made the same stuff the city is made of. When Simonetta Agnello Hornby and Mimmo Cuticchio met recently, their chemistry awoke this two-voice vision of Palermo, a fascinating labyrinth of history and memory. Here is Palermo from the war, Palermo seen from the sea, Palermo and its savage reconstruction. Here are the alleys of munnizza (trash), the noble palazzi (stately mansions), the gorgeous and sensual statues made by Serpotta, the prostitutes (above all, the blonde Nicoletta, who would raise the stones on which she walked), the important people from the Church who stood by the poor and took a stance against the mafia.

Simonetta and Mimmo conjure a city that looks at Europe, not only by virtue of its beauty and contradictions, but also in light of its longing for a future that is being expressed by the institutions and the new generations.

**Simonetta Agnello Hornby** (born in Palermo in 1945) has been living in London since 1972. In 2002 she made her sensational literary debut with *La Mennulara*, widely translated abroad. **Mimmo Cuticchio**, great heir of Palermo’s traditional Opera dei Pupi marionette theater, brought innovation to an art that has been recognized by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.
The powerful story of a team of female factory workers from Sheffield, England, who form a soccer team during World War I, and for a time challenge conventions on the role of women in society and sports. Written in a series of beautiful, poetically pared-down scenes it describes the series of women, who have hardscrabble, working class background. Each of them, however, brings a different motivation to the field – one of them is a fervent socialist and plays for social justice; another has always dreamt of being like St. Joan of Arc; another one is the intellectual of the group. The women work in an ammunition factory contributing to the war effort when they find themselves playing in the yard kicking around a “ball” that was in fact a (perfectly safe) bomb model. When the war ends and the husbands come back, women sadly realize that the men are back to take back their right to play in peace.

**Stefano Massini** (Firenze 1975) is a novelist, essayist and playwright. His works for the stage have been translated into 24 countries. His play *The Lehman Trilogy* was directed by Sam Mendes in London last year and in New York in 2019, both to absolutely rare reviews and sold out audiences. Rights to his *Qualcosa sui Lehman* (Mondadori, 2016) were sold to Globe Editions (F); Harper Via (WEL); Hanser (D); Wereldsbibliotheek (NL); Hakkibutz (IL); The Open Books (KR); Hayakawa (JP) and Harper Español (World Spanish).

He is also the author of *Dizionario inesistente*, rights sold to Globe Editions (F); Hanser (D) and Harper Via (WEL).

French rights already sold to Globe Editions.
Fabio Genovesi
Cadrò, sognando di volare
I Will Fall, Dreaming of Flying

A young man searching for himself while dealing with Marco Pantani

Fabio will have to go to law school and become a lawyer even though nobody asked for his opinion: the chance of a solid, safe, and prestigious future leaves no room for any hesitation or doubts. His studies drag along wearily until Fabio receives a card from the Ministry of Defense to join the civil service at a nursing home for old priests. “Well, at least you’ll see the Giro d’Italia” adds his father as they say goodbye.

Life in the retirement community is boring and frustrating. Fabio eventually bonds with an old priest who is feared and avoided by the others because of his terrible character. The two of them strike a bizarre but deep friendship: they are in tune, both of them are forced to live a life that isn’t their own (the priest took his vows out of necessity, not for vocation), both of them share a passion for cycling and they both identify Marco Pantani as the incarnation of their own dream.

Fabio Genovesi (born in Forte dei Marmi in 1974) is the author of Versilia Rock City (2008), Esche vive (2011), Chi manda le onde (2015 Premio Strega Giovani) and Il mare dove non si tocca (2018). His works have been widely translated in the world. He is a frequent contributor to “Correre della Sera” and its literary supplement “Lettura”.

Among his foreign publishers: Lattès (F), C. Bertelsmann (D), Signatuur (NL), Hiundae Munhak (KR), Dudaj (AL), Patakis (GR), Yediot (IL), Other Press (WEL), Europa Editions (WEL), The Old Lion (UA).
La casa degli sguardi was originally published in 2018 with a limited circulation and has since been reprinted six times thanks to the power of its readers’ word of mouth. The book also received several prestigious literary awards (Premio Volponi, Premio Opera Prima Severino Cesari, Premio Opera Prima John Fante), as well as enthusiastic reviews: “It’s a small masterpiece. It is an exciting, poetic, moving, and a truly precious book,” wrote Daria Bignardi on “Vanity Fair.”

In his new book, the main character is an extremely sensitive boy called Daniele; his perception of reality is a rollercoaster of highs and lows. One day, after a violent outburst of rage, he is involuntarily committed in a psychiatric ward. It’s June 1994, the World Cup is taking place, and he is stuck in a hospital room for a week. In this kind of delirious summer camp Daniele is accompanied by his roommates, a bunch of disturbing and sweet characters, and yet in the depth of this madness shines a powerful humanity, described with unique tenderness and strength.

Daniele Mencarelli (born in Rome in 1974) lives in Ariccia. He is the author of several collections of poems and writes fiction for RAI TV shows. In 2019, he published with Mondadori the novel La casa degli sguardi.
Domenico Boschis, a charismatic TV actor, one summer leaves Rome to be by his father’s side on his deathbed in their home of Langhe. On his very first visit, Domenico’s father in a fog of his illness, starts to obsessively repeat the words “the girl” and breaks down in desperate tears.

While he reconnects with Caterina (his first love from his teen-age years), Domenico pieces together what is torturing his father: a thirteen-year-old girl whose body was found dead back in 1969, after having been kidnapped and abused for months; Domenico manages to shed light on all the mysteries that still surround the girl’s case, discovering a lot more and the role his father might have played.

Alessandro Perissinotto (born in Turin in 1964) is the author of twelve novels; among them two Estonian detective stories Il treno per Tallinn and La neve sotto la neve (written for Mondadori under the pen name Arno Saar) translated in France/ La fosse aux ours, Estonia/Tanapaev and Denmark/Arvid.
Giulio is just over forty when he receives the news that his father passed away. He was a famous orchestra director who moved to Berlin years before to conduct the Philharmonic. He was so obsessed with the execution of the Ninth Symphony directed in 1942 by Lion Feuchtwanger on the occasion of Hitler’s birthday that he forced the orchestra to endure thousands of grueling practice sessions in order to repeat it identically, until the musicians rebel and this put an end to his career.

After his passing, Giulio heads to Berlin to pick up the pieces of the life of that father who suddenly disappeared from his life and was rarely seen after their parents split, when they were still children. He peers beneath the surface of an apparently ordinary man’s life and this will draw the protagonist into an unknown and unsettling world.

Giuseppe Culicchia  
Il cuore e la tenebra  
Heart and Darkness  

A mesmerizing investigation of his recently deceased father’s life with unsettling disclosures.
Tea Ranno
L’amurusanza
Small Acts of Love

A radiant, gorgeous Sicilian novel that vibrates with heart, sensuality and a large part of magic

Agata Lipari is Mrs. Tobacconist, the most beautiful and most desired woman in a charming Sicilian town overlooking the Ionian Sea. She runs the local tobacco shop with her husband Costanzo. When he suddenly dies, the local mafia tries to seize his few properties but Mrs. Tobacconist rolls up her sleeves and fights to defend her own dignity.

And here begins the unthinkable: the colorful community so far suffocated by silence and fear dare to react and fight by her side setting in motion a chain of unpredictable events. In a prose that is dazzling inventive, funny and tender, Tea Ranno immerses us in the troubled lives of the great number of characters of this novel, whose stories intertwine in an impetuous crescendo until the explosive final. A deliciously whimsical and heart-wrenching novel.

Tea Ranno (born near Siracusa in 1963) now lives in Rome. She is the author of a series of novels, among them La sposa vermiglia (2012) and Viola Foscari (2014), both published by Mondadori.

Greek rights sold to Livanis.
Albert Ahrens, the patriarch of the family, arrived to Palermo from Germany in 1875. A successful entrepreneur, married Johanna Benjamin, had six children and established a vast commercial empire and high position in the Palermo society. After years of prosperity and success, the earthquake in Messina, then World War I (which took two of their sons) shook the Ahrens’ golden age. The racial laws marking Ahrens as Jews sealed the fate of the once-great family and marked the beginning of the diaspora. Sons, daughters, nephews, and nieces scattered around the world. But Marta and Margherita brought forth the “light” of the values that always inspired the family: courage, dignity, rigor, and hope. A family saga written with grace and enchantment dispersed in a mosaic of stories; one of those great stories that was just waiting to be told.

*Agata Bazzi* (born in Palermo in 1956) is an heir of the Ahrens family herself. She wrote this novel after finding a large collection of letters the family believed to have been lost.
Commissioner Soneri from Parma’s police headquarters is investigating a cold case: a dead body found in the Po River three years prior. His colleagues at the time couldn’t figure out if it was a suicide or a murder, or even the victim’s identity. So what was it, murder or suicide? To close the case, he just needs to look into it a little further. It’s a formal thing, basically just a matter of appearances. But Soneri remains at heart an idealist: you can’t just bury people without a name, so he decides to re-open the case. The investigation will lead him into the river’s microcosm, where he will try to break the wall of silence typical of small communities harboring fishing poachers, petty criminals, and major speculators. Soneri will ascertain once again that the fog surrounding the Po makes things and people invisible, it changes their profiles, it deceives. And sometimes it kills.
Milan’s police headquarters are in crisis. While looking for the murderer who shot four bullets and killed a famous psychiatrist for the city’s high-society, one of the best investigators from the Homicide Unit is found dead. The suspect is another police officer from the General Investigations and Special Operations Division who committed suicide. It seems like a cut and dry case considering also the well-founded jealousy between them, but for a careful observer like Inspector Francesco Bagni something does not add up… The story takes place in the Eighties, but it will go back in time to open one of the darkest pages in Milan’s recent history: the Piazza Fontana Bombing.

PIETRO COLAPRICO (Putignano, Bari, 1957) is the head of Milan’s editorial staff of “La Repubblica” and is the author of several mystery novels, including La Trilogia della città di m, winner of the Premio Scerbanenco. He co-authored Il ciclo del maresciallo Pietro Binda with Pietro Valpreda, and with Luca Fazzo he wrote Manager Calibro 9, which was turned into the movie Lo spietato.
Between late 1848 and early 1849, groups of armed men marched from all over Italy and headed to Rome to defend the popular uprising that forced Pope Pius IX into exile who, in return, excommunicated the entire city. These young men would go down in History as the guardian angels of the nascent Second Roman Republic, which was perhaps the most advanced political experiment of the Risorgimento and a fundamental milestone in the Unification of Italy. That crossroads of democratic ideas, revolutionary civil rights, and progressivism owes a lot to the brains behind the operation (first and foremost Mazzini and Garibaldi), but it owes even more so to the people that sacrificed their families, loves, and futures for it. And it is through their eyes that Valerio Evangelisti tells the story of those inspired and passionate few months, giving voice to those volunteers who were barely twenty years old but fought every day in the streets of Rome.

**Valerio Evangelisti** (born in 1952 in Bologna), historian, started in 1992 the publication of the extremely successful series of novels dedicated to the medieval Inquisitor Eymerich - fantastic and tolkienesque - translated by **Rivages, Heyne, Grijalbo, Asa, Conrad, Alfa, Znak, Mlada Fronta.**

He is also the author of many successful novels on Italy’s history.
Dindo, Claudia, and Valeria are in their fifties. They meet up in Taranto to attend the funeral of an old friend of theirs. They were really close friends when they were young, they shared common interests, passions, and political views. Over time, however, they took separate ways and had a falling out over Taranto’s steel plant, the largest one in Europe. According to some, it had to be saved because it was a source of wealth and wellbeing; others just saw the steelworks as the “Monster” that had to be shut down so it would stop poisoning and killing with its fumes.

A captivating novel tracing the lives of the protagonists as they grow up and change, often for the worst, alongside an Italy that is changing as well.

**Angelo Mellone** (Taranto, 1973) is a journalist and RAI director. He is the author of several essays and reports, among them *Di qualcosa di destra* (2006). In 2015 he published his first novel *Nessuna croce manca*. 
Rosario Pellecchia
Solo per vederti felice
Just to See You Happy
A lighthearted, quirky novel about the drama of a son and his mother lost in Alzheimer

“I’m just trying to do my best, using the only weapons at my disposal: my imagination and the love of a son who sees his mother alone, lost in the nightmare of senile dementia.”

Rosario Pellecchia was born in Castellammare di Stabia and lives in Milan. He is a popular DJ and this is his first novel.

Ross is just over forty and lives in Milan. One day, he receives a call from his sister, who tells him that he will have to take care of their mother during the whole month of August. Living with his mother turns out to be much more challenging than anticipated; her constant questions put such a strain on him that he comes up with a bizarre idea. Between plot twists, tragicomic situations, heartwarming moments, and a surprise ending, Ross will try to give back to his mother a spark of happiness while also realizing that he has become a better person along the way.
Luca is 29 years old, with a good job and a beautiful fiancée. He has the “right” life, but why does he suddenly feel so unhappy? He tries to hide his frustration until the proverbial final straw makes him leave everything behind and get a one-way ticket to Asia. He faces great challenges in Bali, but he also lives through some extraordinary experiences and, above all, he finds the answers he was looking for, including love.

Gianluca Gotto (Turin, 1990) is a digital nomad: he writes articles and books while traveling the world. He shares his life and road experiences in his blog “Mangia Vivi Viaggia”.

Gianluca Gotto
Come una notte a Bali
Like a Night in Bali
An inspirational novel about travel, love, and pure life
A touching new novel by the author of *Tempi duri per i romantici* that delicately explores the fragile relationship between a brother and a sister.

There was a time when Sara and Michele were inseparable. Neither could do without the other, and each knew everything there was to know about the other sibling. Until one terrible day, when destiny wrenched both their parents from them. That’s when things between Sara and Michele began to go awry. As the years fly by, their relationship becomes ever more strained, until, fueled by pain and the gaping silence that ensues, the two become estranged. They now live far apart, the paths they’ve taken appear much different from anything they’d ever dreamed of. But perhaps all is not lost. Inside each of them, and between the two, there may still remain something to be salvaged from the wreckage.

**Tommaso Fusari** was born in Rome in 1992. He works part-time in a sporting goods store while attending university. His first novel, *Tempi duri per i romantici*, was published in 2017. He has thousands of followers on Facebook and Instagram.
The life of the Captain is made of simple things: waking up at dawn, the scent of morning coffee, fishing in the port of Syracuse, biking in the crowded streets of Ortigia. A life without a lot of drama. And yet, there was a time when the Captain rode the waves with his Poseidon, when he pushed himself further out into the Mediterranean... until that terrible day when the sea turned on him and everything changed. There was no other way to ease the pain than to turn his back on his greatest passion, which inevitably led to losing himself. But if saltwater runs in your veins instead of blood, you cannot run from the sea forever. The destination or length of the journey aren’t important, what matters is heading out at sea. Because when you are out there, the sea forces you to look into yourself and discover new things about yourself and the world. And maybe find love...

Angelo Magnano, from Syracuse, is the author of an Instagram page with over 100,000 followers. He wrote several self-published collections of poems and novels.
It’s humiliating being poor and being labeled for being on welfare. It’s humiliating realizing that your mother lies when she talks about the clothes you wear, that it’s not true that we left the house in a hurry and everything was in the dirty laundry.

This is the story of a boy who was never his age. He doesn’t even have a name, so we will just call him Zero. He never actually had anything, because his life is a constant subtraction: always taking from him and rarely giving anything. Zero has no citizenship, he doesn’t have a mother or any money, and he doesn’t even have the luxury of thinking about the future. Zero’s years, from the age of seven to eighteen (each of which corresponding to a chapter), are filled with hardship, steeped in the poverty of the city outskirts.

An original and unique exploration of the Milanese suburbs, a rich and diverse world of underrepresented cultures mixed with rap elements.

ANTONIO DIKELE DISTEFANO, twenty-six-year-old with Angolan roots, is the author of the YA bestseller Fuori piove, dentro pure, passo a prenderti? (2015) rights sold to Montena/Spain, Bertrand/Portugal and Patakis/Greece.

NETFLIX will produce a TV series titled ZERO, based on this book.
Giovanni (J) and Barbara are two eighteen-year-olds who meet by chance in the hospital. He is there for his treatment and she is the daughter of the head of oncology. They notice one another, then they meet, they eventually argue, and very spontaneously fall in love. But things between them aren’t so simple. Giovanni has been fighting cancer for years and he doesn’t have many expectations about the future; to be honest, he doesn’t even have any plans beyond surviving until the next CT scan. Barbara, trying to please everybody, spends her days planning every detail of her life: she is eighteen and her future is already set in stone. Her father, however, doesn’t approve of her relationship with J. It’s a warm story, special, challenging and problematic, a clash between ways of conceiving the future, life, and love. They will have to question themselves and their convictions in order to live without fear and fully experience the extraordinary adventure that is their relationship.

Matteo Losa is a photographer, writer, and collaborator for “Vanity Fair.” He has been fighting cancer for over eleven years and is the first poster child for AIRC (the Italian Association for Cancer Research) who wasn’t cured.
Tatiana and Andra Bucci were six and four years old when they were arrested in the city of Rijeka (then part of Italy) on March 28, 1944, along with their mother, their grandmother, their aunt, and their cousin Sergio (who was six at the time).

The girls survived the Kinderblock, unlike their cousin Sergio, until the arrival of the Red Army in 1945. After the liberation, they were regarded as orphans and sent to Prague and, later on, to the Lingfield House in the United Kingdom, which operated as home for child survivors of the Holocaust. It wasn’t until August 46 they finally managed to reunite with their parents.

Written with impressive, precise and near-clinical narrative, this book is a tight, and acutely emotional read.

Andra e Tatiana Bucci didn’t begin to talk about their experience until a short interview in the late 70’s. Nowadays, Tatiana lives in Brussels, while Andra lives in the US. They are prolific speakers on the Holocaust, telling their story for future generations to learn from.

A thoughtful memoir by two sisters who managed to survive Auschwitz camp as children.
Massimo Giletti
Le dannate
The Damned

The story of the three Napoli sisters who did not surrender to the mafia

With the passion of the civil witness, Massimo Giletti supports in his Sunday show the fight of the three Napoli sisters: they were left alone in defending their farm against mafia, who tried to seize it by any means for over ten years. It is a story of women’s courage and rebellion, but it is also a story about the power of the right to report: in fact, the threats and violence against the Napoli sisters stopped only after Giletti brought his show’s cameras to the Sicilian countryside where the last Boss of Bosses Bernardo Provenzano spent many of his years as a fugitive. This book sheds light on the three women who had the courage to challenge, day after day, the mafia clans and also the cynicism and indifference of a community. The sisters found the strength to leave behind the commandment “Never tell the cops anything”, proving everyone that another Sicily is possible.

Massimo Giletti is the anchorman of one of the most popular talk show on Italian TV, aired on Sundays.
Federico Faggin is an idol and a hero for all science and technology enthusiasts. In this autobiography, he presents his four lives. From his childhood to his early work experiences in Italy; relocating to Silicon Valley, where he invented the MOS silicon gate technology, the world’s first microprocessor, and many other products; he then became a serial entrepreneur founding Zilog, Synaptics, and other companies; finally with the recognition that consciousness may likely be a fundamental property of nature, he decided to study the nature of reality starting from cognitive principles. Having been a pioneer in the development of artificial intelligence based on artificial neural networks, Faggin realized that science and technology are not enough to understand reality.

FEDERICO FAGGIN (1941, Vicenza) has been living in the US since 1968. He was the project leader of the INTEL 4004, the world’s first microprocessor. In 2010 President Obama awarded him the National Medal of Technology and Innovation for inventing the microprocessor. Synaptics, the last company he founded, developed the first Touchpads and Touchscreens.
“My apprenticeship in acoustic sensibility wasn’t studying music; the real one was rooted in listening to nature.”

David Monacchi, a professor of electro-acoustic music at the Pesaro Conservatory, has been working for years on “Fragments of Extinction”, a project combining music and environmental emergency. He patented the Eco-acoustic Theatre to set up his acoustic soundscapes in 3D and showcase them in museums.

He leaves the base camp at dawn and hikes for miles until he is immersed in the forests. Armed with an extremely high-resolution microphone, Monacchi fends his ways through the world’s largest remaining areas of primary rainforest and gets comfortable, turns the recorder on and sinks into the remnants of nature’s original “organized soundscapes”. David Monacchi is an archeologist of the language of nature. He has been traveling the world for over ten years organizing recording fieldwork in the Amazon, Africa and Borneo that enabled him to archive the sonic aspect of primary rainforest biodiversity. This book is a contribute to the preservation of the marvelous choirs of natural sound, the ecosymphonies we have not even heard or recorded.
Mario Calabresi
La mattina dopo
The Morning After

A book about the emptiness and new beginning we all experience when life suddenly changes

“I’ve been mulling over the morning after for years. We all know what it is: waking up feeling for an instant that everything is normal, but then getting swallowed by the pain.”

When you lose a parent, a partner, a child, a job, a crucial challenge, when you make a mistake, when you retire or move, there is always a morning after. A sense of emptiness, a void accompanied by vertigo. It seizes us when we realize that something or someone we had for years, and thought we would have forever, is suddenly not there anymore. Because after a loss or a change, there is always the moment when we understand that life goes on, but nothing will ever be the same and we are no longer who we were yesterday. An awakening that is inevitably a new beginning.

Mario Calabresi dedicates his latest book to this crucial and delicate moment, starting from his own experiences. Stories of resilience, courage, change, stories of people who found the strength to look beyond the today’s pain and build a new tomorrow.

Mario Calabresi (Milan, 1970) was the director for the newspapers “La Stampa” and “Repubblica.” With Mondadori, he published Spingendo la notte più in là (2007), the poignant and powerful account of his father’s murder in Italy’s era of domestic terrorism in the 70ies, translated in France (Gallimard), USA/UK (The Other Press) and Germany (Schirmer & Graf).
The Wind Passes Through Our Souls... these are the words that Reynaldo Hahn wrote on the margin of the score he was composing, L’île du rêve. It was the summer days of 1894, when he fell in love with Marcel Proust.

Reynaldo was originally from Venezuela, but grew up in Paris. He was only twenty years old at the time, and had already made a name for himself. Marcel was twenty-three and still uncertain of his path but, in the meantime, he participated with avid curiosity to the Parisian salons.

They were both well-educated, ambitious, brilliant men. After two years of intense passion, their relationship changed into a very particular bond that accompanied them until Proust’s death in 1922.

In her book, Lorenza Foschini reconstructs the story of their relationship through the letters which were saved from the destruction perpetrated in the name of a misguided respectability by families that wanted to erase the traces of their homosexuality.

Lorenza Foschini is a journalist and author of several successful essays, including Il cappotto di Proust, translated in the US (Ecco Press), UK (Portobello), Sweden (Atlantis), Brasil (Rocco), Turkey (Kirmizi Kedi), Spain (Impedimenta), Germany (Nagel & Kimche).
Resilient plants. Forests resisting to climate change, to what is now accelerated warming with effects visible to everyone every day. Woods and forests as the last bastions standing against an increasingly aggressive anthropic presence with a devastating impact. The number of plants and woodland areas are growing in Italy and in Europe, but they are shrinking drastically in developing countries. What is the best way to manage the life of forests? What strategies do plants adopt to survive and adapt to an increasingly hostile climate? Giorgio Vacchiano is one of the two Italians on the list of the eleven best emerging scientists in the world; in his book, he tells stories of plants and trees, and especially of humans and how we will be able to imagine our future in relation to the environment that surrounds us.

Giorgio Vacchiano
La resilienza del bosco
The Resilience of the Woods

An innovative field of research: the resilience of forests to climate change
An exploration of the world of vibrant, nutritionally dense food that have recently become widely available. Fruit like avocados, pomegranates, açai, blueberries, goji, noni, maqui berries and mangosteen claimed to have tremendous dietary and healing potential. They are often exotic and they generally cost more than your average fruit. But do they really have an extra edge? Can we consider them antidotes to a wrong lifestyle? Do they really have exceptional powers, can they help with weight loss, or prevent diseases better than other kinds of food? The answer is almost always no, but the important part is understanding why.

Renato Bruni is a Professor for Gastronomic Sciences and Pharmacy at the University of Parma, where he specializes in medicinal plants, food supplements, and chemical substances produced by plants. He runs an online blog called “Erba Volant” and is the author of Erba volant, Le piante sono brutte bestie and Mirabilia (translated in France by Payot and in Germany by Atlantik).
Marco Santagata
Giovanni Boccaccio
The story of his life

After the success of his biographies on Dante and Petrarch, Marco Santagata returns to explore the life of the last of the “three crown jewels” of Florence: Giovanni Boccaccio. He illuminates one of the world’s supreme poets from many angles. Professor Santagata’s breadth of knowledge and command of historical information highlights Boccaccio’s well deserved fame as one of the greatest figures in Western culture and weaves a story that combines social and political history, cultural landscape and biography.

A very well researched work from Boccaccio’s youth between Certaldo and Florence to his time in Naples, from his legal studies to the birth of the novelist, from meeting Petrarch and discovering humanism to his old age.

Marco Santagata
Professor of Italian Literature
at the University of Pisa is author of many essays, among them Dante, il romanzo della sua vita, rights sold to Harvard U.P. (World English rights), Catedra (Spanish World Rights), Zheijang U.P. (People Rep. of China), Sandorf (Croatia).
Franco Nembrini has been holding for years lectures about Dante and the Divine Comedy throughout Italy. At the end of one of these lectures in Rome, Nembrini was approached by a young man who told him that his words had changed his life. The young man was Gabriele Dell’Otto: one of the most famous illustrators in the world and a leading artist for two major American publishers in the comic book industry, Marvel and DC.

This is the beginning of an exciting project that was also a dream of his: make Dante’s words accessible to everyone.

After *Inferno*’s major commercial success, here is the second instalment of the Divine Comedy: after the introduction by Alessandro D’Avenia, each of Dante’s cantos is prefaced by Nembrini and is presented in the original version along with a parallel text in contemporary Italian. Moreover, each canto is accompanied by Gabriele Dell’Otto’s gorgeous illustrations.

**Franco Nembrini** (born in Bergamo) teaches humanities at high school. His seminars and books on Dante have been very successful in Italy and abroad. His publications include *Dante, poeta del desiderio* (ed. Itaca, 2011), *In cammino con Dante* (ed. Garzanti, 2017), *L’avventura di Pinocchio* (ed. Centocanti, 2017).

**Gabriele Dell’Otto** (Rome, 1973) is considered one of the most important illustrators in the world. He works regularly with Marvel and DC Comics, drawing the pages and covers of some of the most famous superheroes, from Batman to Spiderman.
Nowadays, 'Ndrangheta is the richest and most powerful criminal organization, with ten billion euros in revenues made mostly from international cocaine trafficking. And it is a glocal organization, a union between tradition and adaptability, continuity and transformation, impact force and mediation, and it can set roots in almost every continent thanks to its incredible ability to develop relations. Surprisingly, it is also the least known criminal organization: before the Duisburg massacre in 2006, 'Ndrangheta was considered a “ragamuffin,” homespun version of the Sicilian mafia.

This book reconstructs for the first time the history of 'Ndrangheta, sweeping away many of the commonplaces surrounding this criminal organization that grew shrouded in silence. For thirty years, Nicola Gratteri has been fighting as a prosecutor putting his own life on the line, while the author and university professor Antonio Nicaso has been studying every aspect of this criminal organization. Together, they trace the threads of history in these pages while keeping an eye on the present, weaving current events into the narrative structure; in doing so, they bring to light the origins of a phenomenon that weighs heavily on today’s politics and economics, on national and international levels.

Nicola Gratteri is the leading prosecutor in the fight against the 'ndrangheta.

Antonio Nicaso is one of the world’s foremost experts on 'ndrangheta.

Both of them have received threats. Gratteri has lived under police protection since 1989. Nicaso was forced to leave Italy and has been living in Canada since 1990.

They co-authored a long list of bestselling essays. Among their foreign publishers: RHM/Spain, La Martiniere/France, Lebowski/Netherlands, Avliga/Bulgaria.
Professor Paolo Grillo takes us on a journey back to a time and place, Europe in the Middle Ages, through the eyes of those who lived on the borders and beyond the horizon of Catholic realms. We will discover how Vikings gave up on America for the discovery of a new way of sailing introduced by Ligurians; that a walrus has more in common with an elephant than you might think; that Sub-Saharan Africa, the Indian continent, the infinite Mongolian steppe were unknown places in an imaginary geography, but open to trade and commerce. We will discover that the world seen from its peripheries is often more interesting than if it were just observed from its center of power. Like for Frankopan’s book The Silk Roads: A New History of the World, there is a lot of interest for stories told from unorthodox points of view.

Paolo Grillo teaches Medieval History at the University of Milan, with a focus on the history of Italian cities between the Twelfth and Fourteenth Century. He is a frequent contributor to “La Lettura,” Corriere della Sera’s cultural supplement.
There was a time when the United States and Russia seemed on the way to become a single entity, at least from an economic and financial perspective. What is happening instead, and what many experts considered impossible, is a divorce that will change the maps of our future, which will also affect Europe. The end of a piece of globalization history that lasted at least a quarter of a century. The sunset of a certain world order. “When Amazon is forced to shut down its activities in China, it’s a consequence of the fact that Beijing fostered (by legal and illicit means) national champions that scorch the earth around many foreign companies. In addition, there is also the American awareness that Beijing is leapfrogging in the political-military race as well. Xi is the first leader who proclaims urbi et orbi (to the city and to the world) the superiority of his authoritarian model over our liberal democracies.” In his new book, Rampini analyzes the great emancipation process of China, a student that has surpassed his teacher in several areas, and the ensuing American reaction.
Fascism emerges from the shadows in Italy: fascist symbols, rhetoric and salutes – long a public taboo – have made their way out of the hooligans sections of soccer stadium and into Italian streets. Neo-Fascism and a populist glorification of Mussolini’s regime is contaminating Italy’s culture and politics, also thanks to the leader of the right-wing party, Matteo Salvini.

That’s the reason why Bruno Vespa dedicated his newest book to that crucial period in Italian history of the Fascist regime, starting from the editorial published by Gabriele D’Annunzio in the newspaper “Corriere della Sera” on October 24, 1918 (ten days before the victory in WWI) that ended four years later on October 28, 1922 with the March on Rome, which brought triumphally Benito Mussolini to power for twenty years.

Bruno Vespa (L’Aquila, 1944) has been running the TV show “Porta a porta”, the most watched talk show on politics and current affairs, since 1996. 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.


Veronica Pivetti

Per sole donne

Only for Women

Six friends past their prime and their brazen stories on sex and men

“Sex was so boring with him.”
This is how Veronica Pivetti’s book starts off. A funny and erotic novel to laugh over the sexy misadventures of a fifty-year-old woman. The main character works in an antiques shop, she is married to a younger man, but they are going through a rough patch, and she is a wise and wild mother. She also has a great group of friends. They are so close that she can vent to them and talk freely about her fantasies, her worries, and her incredible sexual experiences. Sex is the linchpin around which their lives gravitate: it’s never taboo, often fun, sometimes incredible, frustrating, strenuous, real, and fake. Six fifty-year-old women, independent and brave, dealing with and talking about sex with shameless comedic truth.
An ironic and funny novel between a self-deprecating version of Fifty Shades of Grey and Sex and the City, which will make its television comeback this year with its four leading ladies, who are now all in their fifties.

VERONICA PIVETTI was born in Milan in 1965 and lives in Rome. She made her debut as a voice-over actor at the age of seven and has since performed in movies and on stage. After Ho smesso di piangere and Mai all’altezza, Veronica Pivetti is now at her third book, confirming her status as a comic writer lent to TV and theater.
Ever since he was a child, Andrew Basso nurtured his passion for magic until he became one of the most famous illusionists in the world. Some even consider him the true heir of Houdini. In this autobiographic book full of anecdotes and motivational lessons, he teaches us that in order to achieve our dreams, we need to know how to identify and follow our passion and have the perseverance to develop it over the years. The key to making an illusion or an impossible feat look easy is sacrifice and perfection. And to free yourself from a pair of handcuffs and challenge death, you first need to learn to be free from yourself and your mental fears. The trick, if there is such a thing, is simple and precious: you are what you want. Only after you understand that, you can believe in the impossible and transform it into reality. And to the others it will look like magic.

Andrew Basso is considered a “rockstar of magic.” He is only 29 years old and he is the first Italian illusionist to make it to Broadway. He was the world champion in 2005, the founder of an academy dedicated to magic arts, and he is constantly touring in Italy and abroad.

Salvatore Vitellino is the co-author of Ne vale sempre la pena (written with the pediatric oncologist Momcilo Jankovic, ed. Baldini&Castoldi, 2018) and La vita oltre (written with the ultramarathon runner Roberto Zanda).
Johanna Maggy Splendere
Glowing
A book about internal and external wellbeing with a Nordic flavor

Johanna Maggy is a Pilates teacher and a holistic coach who started the lifestyle blog “Mother’s Spell”. She moved to Italy for love and has been living there for years. In this book, she teaches us to take care not only of our body but also of our mind and spirit. From the importance of breathing and meditation to get in touch with ourselves, to advice about nutrition and exercise, Johanna guides us step by step along the discovery of small habits that will bring more harmony to our life. An inspirational book with a Nordic flavor accompanied by evocative photos and full of musings about happiness and wellbeing, but also practical advice and recipes.

To learn how to glow every day.

JOHANNA MAGGY HAUUSDOTTIR is originally from Iceland. She moved to Milan several years ago to live with her Italian partner and their two children. She is a very popular influencer in the wellbeing sector: her lifestyle blog “Mother’s Spell” and her IG account have over 100,000 followers on Instagram.
For the first time, women’s soccer is finally experiencing its World Cup of celebrity and affection. And with Italy’s team in the quarterfinals against the Netherlands, it is also our best athletic result ever. Maybe, for the first time in Italy too, these girls are seen without the prejudice and clichés that often prevented them from expressing their true personality.

Sara Gama is the captain of a brave group of girls and has become a role model for what the bel paese could become in the 21st century. In this book she tells the stories of women in sports, starting from her own: a small-town girl who became the captain of the national soccer team and made Italy dream by reaching the World Cup quarterfinals in women’s soccer. In addition to Sara’s story, which is the first and main one in the book, the captain also writes about other female athletes who achieved greatness, bringing forth together a powerful message of women as a source of pride.

**Sara Gama** (born in 1989) was the captain of Italy’s women soccer team at the recent France Women’s World Cup. She was so popular that there’s even a Barbie dedicated to her.