



il castoro
25 Years

RIGHTS LIST



2018

NEW
TITLES



Someone Like Anthony

by Susanna Mattiangeli
Illustrations by Mariachiara Di Giorgio

Anthony may look like an ordinary child but there's a lot more to him than meets the eye. With his mum and dad, he's a son, for his aunt he's a nephew, with his cousins he's a cousin, then he's an attacker when football time comes around. On the bus, he's a passenger but also a monkey, hanging on the trees of a tropical forest. At home after school, when he puts pen to paper, he's a brilliant poet then a great actor performing for dad, brother and the plumber too. Playing hide and seek, he can be invisible, with the power to disappear.

Anthony can be many things at the same time, but when he's with me, he is one alone: my best friend.



Age: 4+
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm
Picture book

Rights sold in France, Ukraine

▶ There's no one like a best friend!



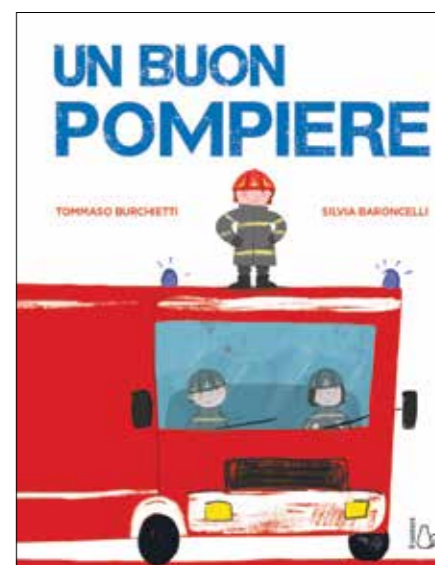
A Good Fireman

by Tommaso Burchiotti
Illustrations by Silvia Baroncelli

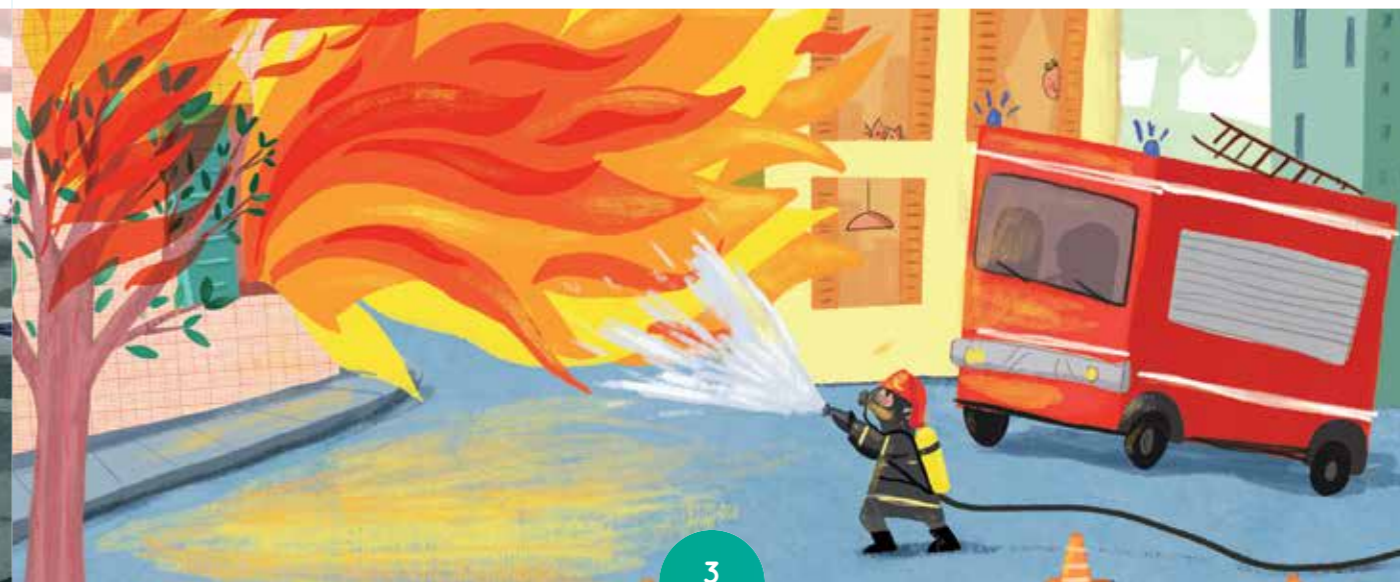
A little boy is playing at being a fireman and on each page of this book, we see what it is that makes him a really good one. He can put his clothes on really quickly, is not afraid of water or even of the dark, and there's nothing he doesn't know about fire engines. He gives everything his best shot and loves to work in a team...until it's time to go home!



▶ Every child dreams of being a fireman!



Age: 4+
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm
Picture book



HB Pencil

by Susanna Mattiangeli
Illustrations by Rita Petruccioli



Age: 7+
Pages: 128 (b/w illustrations)
Format: 14x20,5 cm
12.000 words
Fiction



«I am HB Pencil, which in pencil language means Hard Black, in other words a bit hard and a bit black. My real name is different, but here in my notebook I'm Pencil. It's a nickname, a pen-name, like Lewis Carroll or Lady Gaga.»

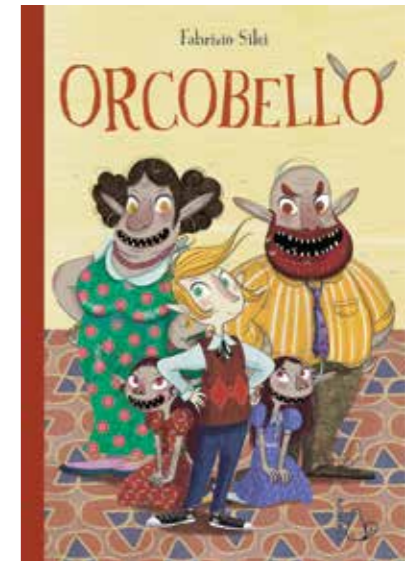
In her hilariously honest - and sometimes surreal - notebook HB Pencil tells us about her life at school, her heart-throb Jacob, as well as her favourite writing spot (the fridge), the legendary marathon in Ancient Greece she ran with Jacob, and her favourite comic strip, Powercat. Penned by Strega award-finalist Susanna Mattiangeli, HB Pencil, the book and its daydreaming protagonist, takes readers through a cavalcade of genres, flipping seamlessly between poetry, script, science fiction and comics, and revealing beautifully how easy it is to inhabit both real and imaginary worlds.

Orcobello

by Fabrizio Silei
Illustrations by Fabrizio Di Baldo

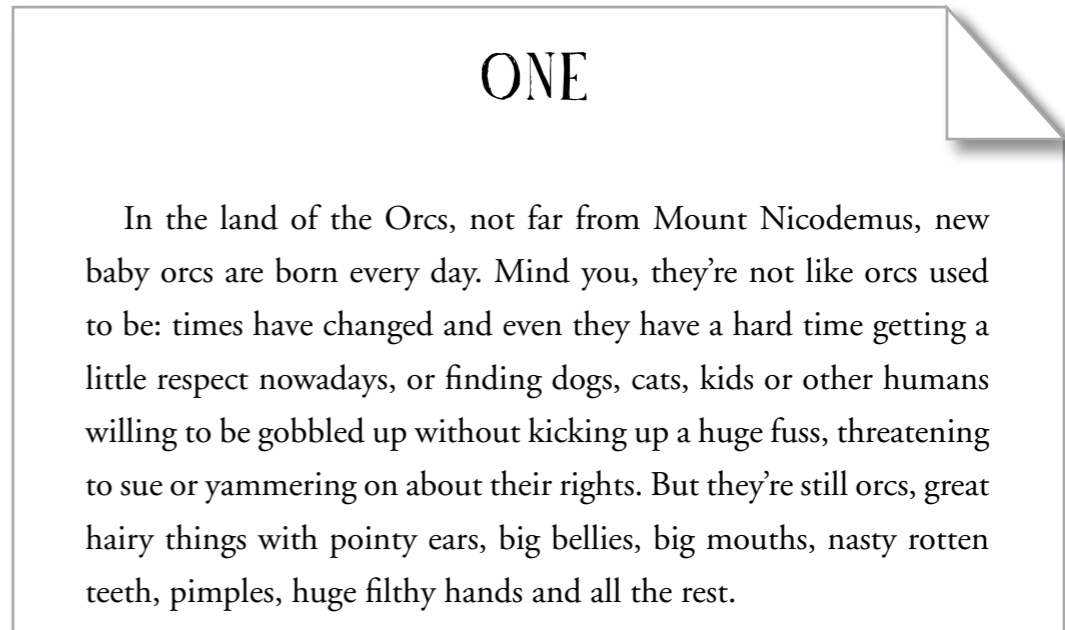
More
orc stories
coming
soon

There's a big news in New Orc City! Orcnest, the mayor of the town, is expecting a baby orc. As the smelliest, nastiest orc of all, everyone has high expectations about how divinely hairy and malodorous his offspring will be. But who could ever have imagined that such a highly respected and putrid pair as Orcnest and his gruesome wife could produce an orc who wasn't ugly. Orcobello is only a blond-eyed beauty with the best manners and the biggest smile they've ever seen! Orcnest fears his rancid reputation is in danger but he soon discovers that, despite his good looks, Orcobello is just as orc-hearted as the rest of them!



- ▶ **Strega-award finalist and Andersen-prized author**
- ▶ **The uniquely funny adventures of an orc who wasn't ugly!**

Age: 8+
Pages: 144 (b/w illustrations)
Format: 14x20,5 cm
15.000 words
Fiction



ONE

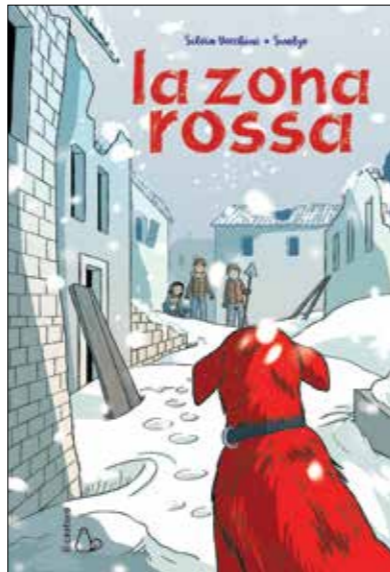
In the land of the Orcs, not far from Mount Nicodemus, new baby orcs are born every day. Mind you, they're not like orcs used to be: times have changed and even they have a hard time getting a little respect nowadays, or finding dogs, cats, kids or other humans willing to be gobbled up without kicking up a huge fuss, threatening to sue or yammering on about their rights. But they're still orcs, great hairy things with pointy ears, big bellies, big mouths, nasty rotten teeth, pimples, huge filthy hands and all the rest.

The Red Zone

by Silvia Vecchini and Sualzo



On a night like any other, in a town like any other, the ground shakes for the first of many times. Matteo, Giulia, Federico have a normal life, they have friends, family, go to school and swing between happy and sad like any children. Then, in a single night, everything changes. An earthquake hits and it devastates their town, their security and their daily life. Can there be anything left after everything has gone? Matteo, Giulia, and Federico come to realise that life goes on, and that, even amid the rubble, the roots for a stronger friendship can be laid.



Age: 9+
 Pages: 144 (full colour)
 Format: 14x20,5 cm
 Words: approx. 4.000
 Middle grade graphic novel

Rights sold in Usa

▶ **A vivid and poignant portrayal of what it's like to live through an earthquake**



Come Back to Me

by Luigi Ballerini

Would you erase your past for guaranteed happiness in the future?

Pauline, Matthew, Albert and Lenore are ordinary teenagers, juggling ordinary problems of family, friendship and love. They've never met but they have something in common – mysteriously, all their mothers died when they were young, and they remember very little about it. The mystery becomes real when each of them is visited by a ghostly woman in red, claiming to be their mother. After these visits, their lives take positive turns – glowing report cards at school, a date with the most popular girl in the class, promotion to the first team. Such good fortunes come at a price, though. The ghostly women in red want their lives and their children back, and the teenagers are faced with an impossible choice. Will they sacrifice their past for a perfect future?



Age: 11+
 Pages:
 Format: 14x21 cm
 Words: approx.
 YA Fiction

▶ **By the bestselling author of Code.Name.Zero
 2016 Bancarellino Award winner (best YA fiction)**

The 50 little Revolutions Handbook (to Change the World)

by P. Baccalario and F. Taddia
Illustrations by A. Ferrari

Do you want to change the world? With this handbook you can! Written specially for little revolutionaries, it has 50 challenges, 50 tasks and 50 revolutionary actions that will help make our planet, your community, even yourself, far better. From cutting out bottled water to spending a day without technology, giving up telling lies or even going for a 10km walk. Each task is to be performed personally, or with the back-up of a gang of fellow rebels.

▶ **The world is in your hands.
Are you ready to change it?**



Age: 9+
Pages: 192 (2 colours)
Format: 14,2x19,3 cm
Approx 20.100 words
Non-fiction

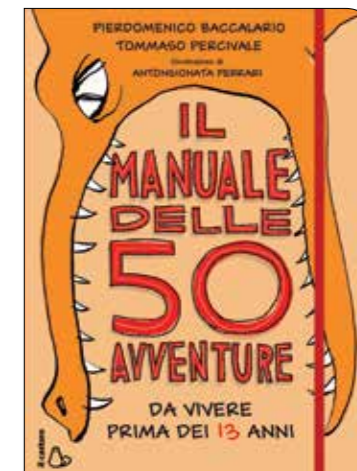


The 50 Adventures Handbook (to Do Before You Turn 13)

by P. Baccalario and T. Percivale
Illustrations by A. Ferrari

You are an intrepid explorer and you always are on the lookout for big adventures...but where to start? This handbook presents 50 missions to accomplish, 50 treasures to hunt for, and 50 things to do before you turn 13. There's everything from building a tree-house and going stargazing to sledding down a steep slope, making a giant soap bubble or feeding at least seven different animals.

▶ **A great source of ideas to get kids off the sofa and into the open air!**



Age: before 13!
Pages: 176 (2 colours)
Format: 14,2x19,3 cm
Approx 15.000 words
Non-fiction

Rights sold in Usa, Germany, France, Spain (Spanish And Catalan), Sweden, Portugal, Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Russia, Lithuania, Turkey, Greece, Albania, Japan, Korea, China

The 50 Secret Missions Handbook to Survive in the Grown-up World

by P. Baccalario and E. Jáuregui
Illustrations by A. Ferrari

You are an undercover agent and you are determined to find out everything you can about grown-ups, but they are determined not to reveal their secrets! This handbook sets out 50 missions to be accomplished to be done alone, with the help of a secret spy or some special agent friends. Nothing will be secret anymore, from changing a nappy and replacing a light bulb to cutting your fingernails, asking someone out or booking a table at a restaurant. But watch out: there could be some grown-ups about!

▶ **Cool kids do it by themselves!**



Age: after 9!
Pages: 192 (2 colours)
Format: 14,2x19,3 cm
Approx 20.100 words
Non-fiction

Rights sold in Spain (Spanish and Catalan), Japan, Poland, Serbia, Korea, Turkey



Little Feelings

by Sonia MariaLuce Possentini

Little Feelings describes the wide range of moods – happy, laughing, angry or crying - that babies and young toddlers experience. The bright, true-to-life illustrations encourage children to “see and say” with simple text facilitating parents’ interaction and a mirror for little readers to peer into on the last page. It is the perfect first book of faces to share with babies, play peek-a-boo together, and giggle as they see themselves in the mirror. Marvel at the many faces babies can make!

▶ With true to life illustrations and peek-a-boo mirror at the end

YEAH!



OOOH!



HA HA!

YUK!

PEAK-A-BOO!



Age: 0-3
Pages: 22 (11 spreads)
Format: 15x15 cm
Board Book



ANDERSEN

Author awarded with
Italian Andersen
Prize 2017

I LIKE - I DON'T LIKE

When I Play When I Eat When I Sleep

by Lodovica Cima
Illustrations by Sonia MariaLuce Possentini

I like lots of things, such as Daddy tickling me or playing with water. There are lots of things I don't like, such as snow globes or sitting quietly.

What about you? What do you like and what do you not like? The I Like - I Don't Like books are based on a peer education approach and provide a non-judgemental space in which children can feel free to express their likes and dislikes. The vivid illustrations capture the many adorable expressions of children in everyday life.



Age: 0-3
Pages: 22 (11 spreads)
Format: 15x15 cm
Board Book



AND YOU, WHAT DO YOU LIKE?



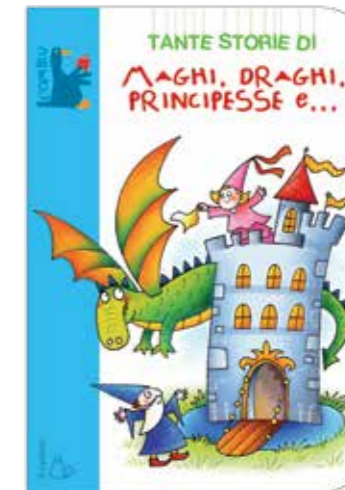
THE BLUE GOOSE series



Various Authors
Created by Emanuela Bussolati

Everyone needs a good bedtime story... especially if it's short! OCA BLU is a fun collection of short and snappy stories to appeal to 3-year-olds. The simple, lively tales feature the characters that children love most. One story leads to another... and another. Be prepared to read "just one more!"

▶ Narrative board books with round corners and coloured edges



Age: 3+
Pages: 48
Format: 14x20 cm

Rights sold in China, Turkey



Many Stories of Tyrannosaurs and Diplodocuses...



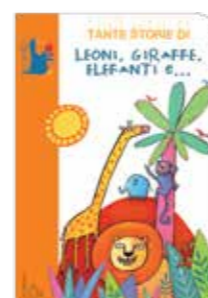
Many Stories of Cats, Frogs and Bunnies...



Many Stories of Wizards, Princesses and Dragons...



Many Stories of Trolls, Ogres and Yetis...



Many Stories of Lions, Giraffes and Elephants...



Many Stories of Tractors, Cranes and Bulldozers...



Many Stories of Pirates, Mermaids and Treasures...



Many Stories of Stars, Owls and Fireflies...

TANDEM series ...two stories that travel together!

Various Authors
Created by Lodovica Cima

A brand-new series for early readers.

Each book features two stories that go hand in hand:

- **the first story** is short, reads quickly and is written in CAPITAL LETTERS

- **the second story** is longer, written in normal print and a slightly more challenging read

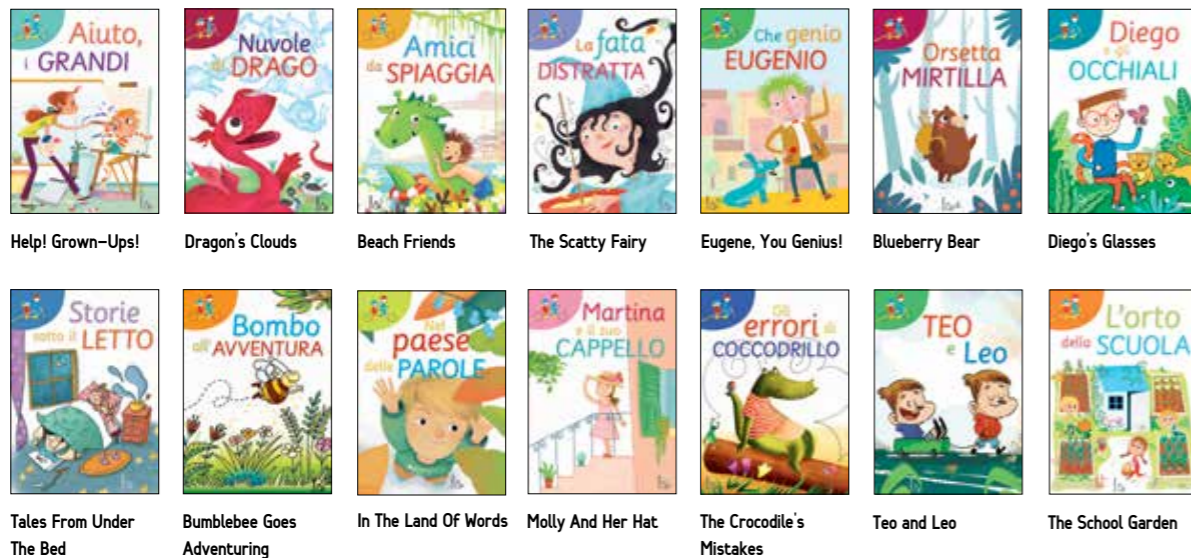
An easy-to-approach and rewarding series: children will quickly notch up reading milestones!



Age: 5+
Pages: 48 (full colour)
Format: 14x20 cm

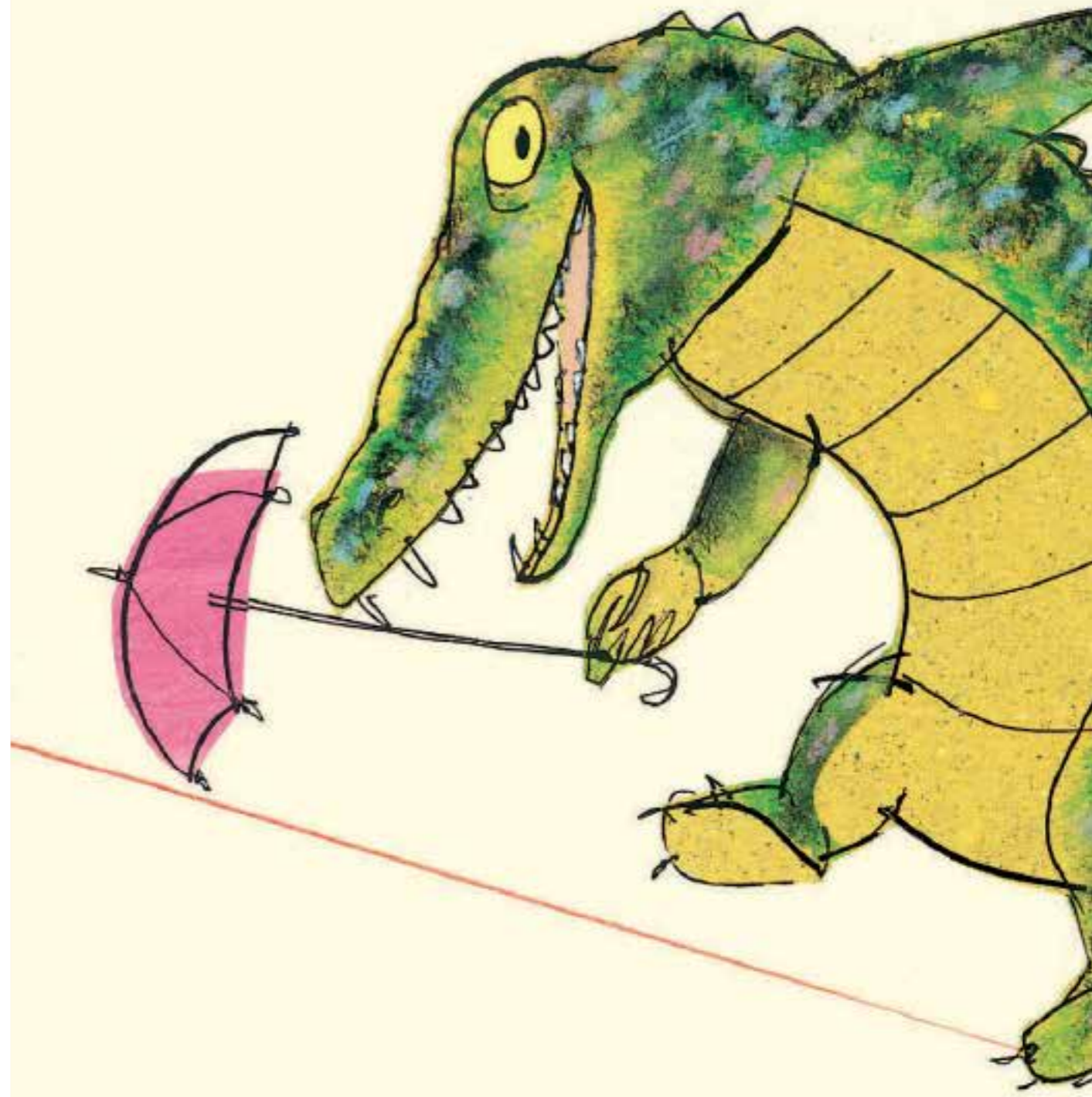
Rights sold in Turkey, Romania, Greece

Written in Sassoon Primary, an easy-to-read typeface designed for and with children to improve literacy by bridging the gap between reading and handwriting.



Help! Grown-Ups! Dragon's Clouds Beach Friends The Scatty Fairy Eugene, You Genius! Blueberry Bear Diego's Glasses
Tales From Under The Bed Bumblebee Goes Adventuring In The Land Of Words Molly And Her Hat The Crocodile's Mistakes Teo and Leo The School Garden

PICTURE BOOKS



She's Not a Duck!

by Fulvia degl'Innocenti
illustrations by Maria Girón



Stella is a duck. But for Liz, she is the most adorable dog ever. Liz takes Stella everywhere: to the park and even to nursery school. While Liz is in the classroom, Stella waits quietly inside Liz's school bag, hanging on the coat rack. Stella is well-behaved too; when she's on her leash, you can tell she's a special doggie. Stella and Liz are inseparable. Today, Dad has a present for Liz — a little ball of fur with four tiny paws and a minuscule pink tongue. It's a puppy! But... what about Stella? Not to worry, they'll make great playmates of course!



Age: 4+
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm

Rights sold in Spain (Spanish and Catalan), Russia, Ukraine, China

► Friends come in all shapes and sizes!

Yawns

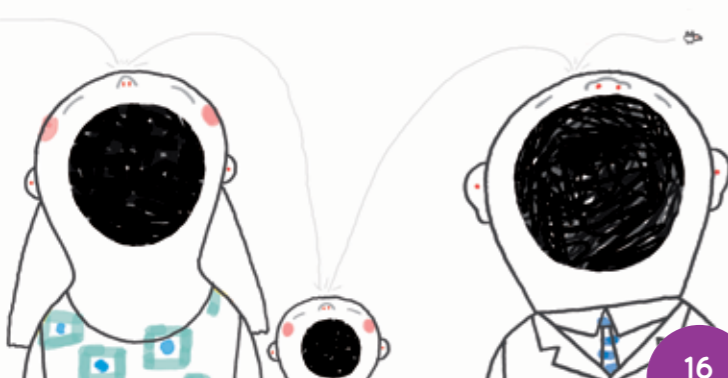
by Marco Viale

Have you ever tried to hold back a yawn? I bet it didn't work! It's like trying to stop rain from falling. Or convincing mum and dad that chocolate is much better for you than soup. When you feel a yawn coming, let it out. But be careful, you might fall asleep!



Age: 4
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm

Rights sold in France, South Africa, Turkey, Korea, China



Have You Seen Anna?

by Susanna Mattiangeli
illustrations by Chiara Carrer

Anna and her mum go shopping at the market. In a split second, while Mum is looking at the tangerines, Anna gets lost among the stalls. Where is Anna? Everyone helps to look for her. They all want to know what she looks like. Well, Anna has a deep golden tan, especially in the summer, although she turns greenish when she's feeling ill. Anna is soft and fluffy, but she can also be rough and prickly. Sometimes she makes a lot of noise, at other times she's very quiet. Some-



times she needs lots of room, at others, a tiny box is enough. Anna is just like other girls, but nobody is like Anna. Perhaps she could even be you!



Age: 4
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm

Rights sold in Spain, Korea, China

How the Teacher Really Works

by Susanna Mattiangeli
Illustrations by Chiara Carrer

Teachers are funny sorts. They come in all shapes, sizes and colours. They can be dark, light, curly, smooth, polka-dotted, flowered, chequered, and in a million different patterns too. Inside every teacher, there are numbers, rivers, and mountains galore, not to mention the five senses and so much more. This book takes a delightful look at the miraculous beings that are teachers, celebrating one of the most magical encounters children have when they start school.



Age: 4
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm

Rights sold in France, Latin America, Denmark, Greece, Turkey, Slovenia

► Winner Gigante delle Langhe Award

Story of an Ink Drop and a Snowflake

by P. Baccalario and A. Gatti
Illustrations by S. Mulazzani

A snowflake and an ink drop – have you ever heard of two more unlikely friends? In this story, there’s a big town. It’s winter. There’s a snowflake and it’s about to fall from the sky. Where will he land? There’s also an ink drop. In winter. In the same big town. Looking out at the world from inside her bottle. A sudden gush of wind knocks the bottle over and Ink Drop starts to fall. Down, down. Where will she land? Will Snowflake and Ink Drop ever meet? Two wonderful stories, two beautiful worlds, all in one exquisite book.

▶ An enchanting book with two stories that meet in the middle and stunning laser-cut pages



Age: 4+
Pages: 52
Format: 25x33 cm

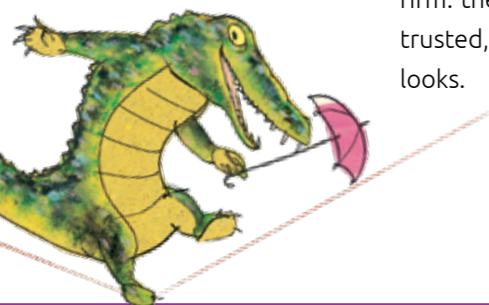
Rights sold in Usa, Germany, Luxembourg, China, Taiwan

The Kind Crocodile

by Lucia Panzieri
Illustrations by AntonGionata Ferrari

A gigantic crocodile sneaks out of the pages of a book every night and tiptoes around a quiet, happy home, making himself useful. He looks ferocious but is actually a kind crocodile with a big dream. He would love to become someone’s pet, to live with a real family, just like a kitten or a goldfish, and be allowed to play with the children. Mum and Dad are frightened at first but the children are

firm: the kind crocodile is to be trusted, in spite of how scary he looks.



Age: 4+
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm

Rights sold in Usa, Argentina (Spanish World), Japan, Korea, China

I Am a Horse

by Bernard Friot
Illustrations by Gek Tessaro

A horse? Are you sure? Well... Okay, let’s face it: he’s actually a camel, but a very resourceful one! Camel is looking for a job but since everyone seems more interested in horses than in camels, he pretends to be a horse. Can you guess what happens next? I bet you can’t. Be ready to laugh out loud!



▶ An exhilarating story of identity by an amazing pair of storytellers!



Age: 4+
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm

Rights sold in France, Spain (Spanish and Catalan), China

Happy Cattle Thief

by Gek Tessaro

Gek Tessaro’s lavishly illustrated book opens with “You can draw whatever you like”. Each page is a call to creativity with no boundaries or set rules. Whether it’s one horse or a thousand horses, a tiny elephant or a huge insect, even a happy cattle thief... as happy-go-lucky as the author - this book has a clear message for children everywhere: unleash your imagination!



Age: 4+
Pages: 80
Format: 20,5x18,5 cm

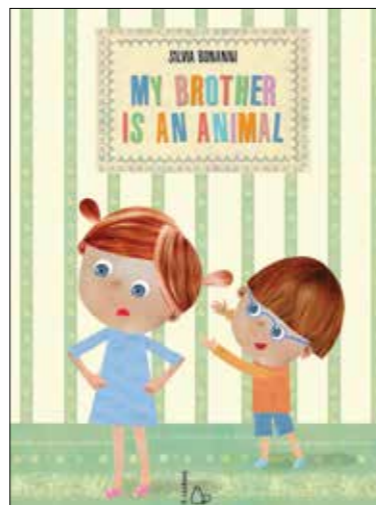
▶ Drawing is magic on a page



My Brother Is an Animal!

by Silvia Bonanni

Brothers can be very annoying. Sometimes they behave more like little monkeys than little boys! The girl in this story thinks so too. When the teacher asks her to describe her brother one day, the fun, fold-out pages open to reveal how she sees him in a variety of situations: a messy little piggy, a proud little peacock, an angry little tiger and as slow as snail going to school. The story ends with a crowd of cute animals that just happen to remind her of her brother. A right little animal. Just as well she adores animals too!



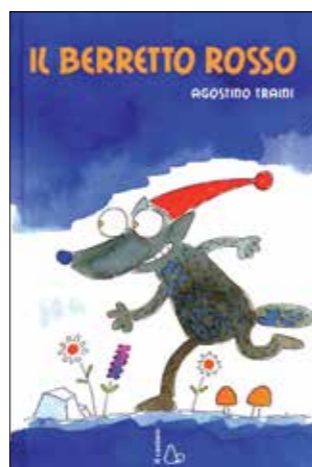
Age: 3+
Pages: 48, with 9 flaps
Format: 23x30 cm

Rights sold in Korea, China

The Red Hood

by Agostino Traini

A fairytale classic gets a contemporary makeover in this hilarious yet warmhearted parody. Parents and children alike will be won over by the little girl who's not afraid of the wolf and the wolf who is desperate to get his hands on her red hood.



Age: 4+
Pages: 32
Format: 14,5x22 cm

Rights sold in Spain (Spanish and Catalan), Turkey, Greece, China



A much-loved fairytale with a new twist!

A Little Darkness

by Cristina Petit

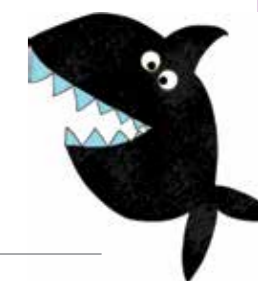
Talla wakes one night and sees two mysterious and very bright red lights in the other room. Maybe they're the eyes of a wolf that wants to eat me, she wonders. Then she sees a pair of flickering yellow lights and wonders if they might be a tiger's teeth?

A little darkness doesn't scare me, cos I am brave, I go and see! she tells herself as she heads off round the house in the dead of night. There are no monsters to be found, she discovers, just the lights on the TV; the stereo; the washing machine; ...even Mummy's reading light!



Age: 4+
Pages: 32
Format: 26x21 cm

Rights sold in Spain (Spanish and Catalan), Turkey, Korea



The Chicken and the Egg

by Pico Floridi

Illustrations by Tamara Zambon

Down at the farm, Cocorita is a hen who thinks she's a parrot! She's not even sure what the white things are in her nest so she asks her friends. They've never seen an egg before but think they could be useful for all sorts of things. The eggs finally begin to hatch and 1, 2, 3... 30 little chicks appear! It's time to celebrate! Cocorita marries Hugo the cockerel and they have a wonderful wedding party at the farm.



Age: 4+
Pages: 32
Format: 15x20 cm

Achoo!

by Silvia Serreli

Illustrations by Andrea Castellani

Teo has a bit of a problem: every time he sneezes, he turns into an animal! Then when he sneezes again... he turns back into a boy. No one knows what to do. Mum, dad and the doctors are at a loss and Teo is terrified! Tomorrow is his first day at school and he's worried what his teacher and classmates will say. This is a funny story about friendship, bullying and first days at school. Children will love it!



Age: 4+
Pages: 32
Format: 15x20 cm

Rights sold in Turkey, Malta, Korea, China

The Secret Path

by Pinin Carpi

A little girl called Stella, her mum and dad, and Alia, a mysterious fairy, follow the Secret Path on their exploration of a wonderful world. The author doesn't reveal Stella's adventures along the Secret Path. What he does, though, is draw and paint them! Page after page the amazing drawings bring the magical worlds to life. This is the ideal book to capture the imagination of young readers and encourage them to explore the world around them.



Age: 9 to 99
Pages: 48
Format: 26x34 cm

Rights sold in China

Open Your Window!

by Lia Levi

Illustrations by Elena Borio Alluto

The courtyard is a very special place: it can see into the lives of the inhabitants of the building around it. Through the windows overlooking the courtyard, we learn about a little girl who reads in the dark, a little boy who loves cherries, a penniless poet unable to pay his bills, a young couple in love, and a mysterious grey camel...



Age: 3+
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm

Look and Find Art

by Roberto Morgese

Illustrations by Barbara Bongini

This book takes a playful approach to abstract art. Can you spot a carrot in a Kandinsky? A bicycle in a Picasso? Or a toothbrush, a shoe and a hammer all in a Malevich? What stories can we make up about these objects? Children are invited into a figurative adventure with artists Kandinsky, Klee, Malevich, Delaunay, Matisse, Picasso, Van Doesburg, and Baumeister. This is a visually striking book that will spark the imagination of children and adults alike.



Age: 4+
Pages: 40
Format: 28x35,5 cm

Rights sold in China

So Many Families!

by Pico Floridi

Illustrations by Amelia Gatacre

An illuminating trip through the kaleidoscope of different types of families, from nuclear and extended to one-parent and multi-cultural. Children can be natural, fostered or adopted. All it takes is love and affection to make a family, no matter how it's formed!



Age: 3+
Pages: 32
Format: 23x30 cm

NON FICTION



My Diary of Dreams, Thoughts, Secrets, Plans and Giggles

by Cristina Petit
Illustrations by Francesco Fagnani



Children love having a special place to keep their thoughts and doodles, not to mention their secret dreams and favourite things. This diary will inspire them to look inside themselves, explore their inner world and get their creative juices going in drawing and colouring activities. It is packed full of perfect “thought-starters” such as “My best how to make friends after falling out strategies” and “My letter to the School Principal”, and lots more checklists, fill-in-the-blanks, personality quizzes, doodles and sticker activities.



Age: 7+
Pages: 176 (2 colours)
Format: 16x22 cm

Rights sold in USA, France

▶ A fun “all about me journal” that children will treasure!



Pop-up Christmas Tree

by Dario Cestaro

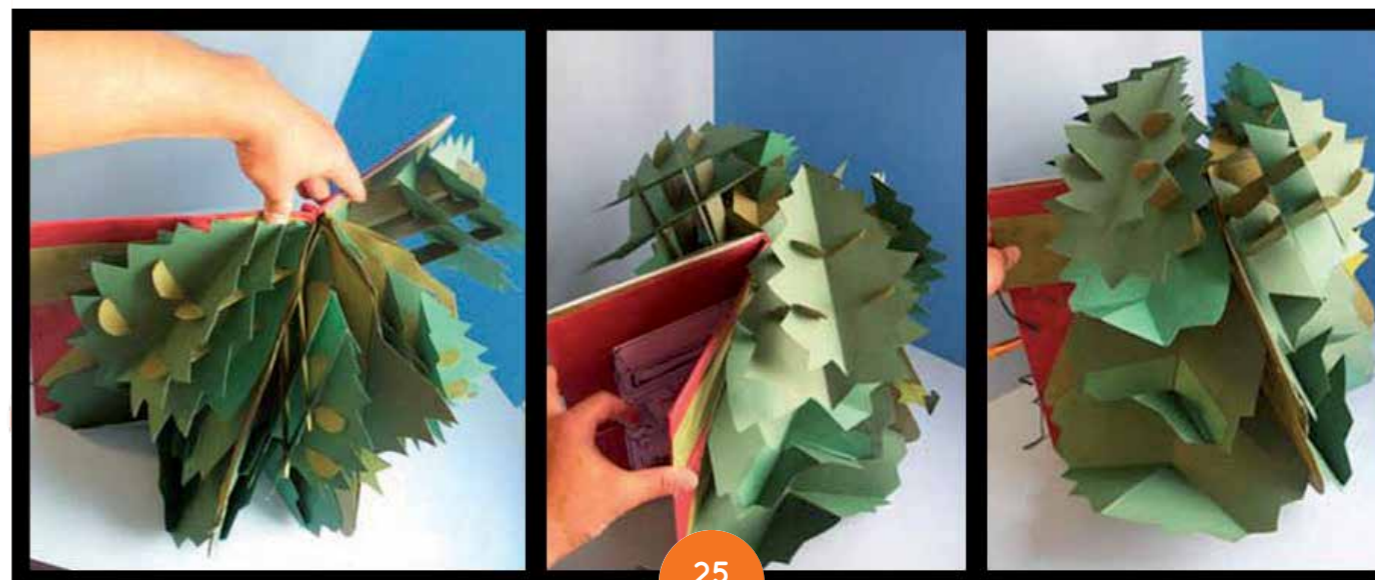


Adorn your home during the festive season with this ingenious masterpiece in paper engineering. Open the book and a giant pop-up Christmas tree will magically unfold leaving everyone mesmerized, children and grown-ups alike. Hang decorations on it to create a festive atmosphere with this unique piece of papercraft.



▶ A book that turns into a one-of-a-kind pop-up Christmas tree!

Age: 0-99
Format (book): 24,5x 34,5 cm
Format (tree): diameter 65 cm
height 64 cm



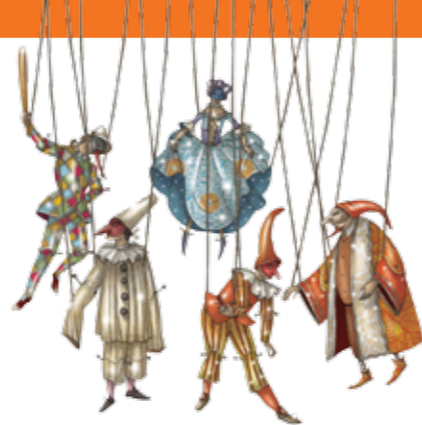
The Big Book of Magical Objects

by P. Baccalario and J. Olivieri
Illustrations by M. Somà

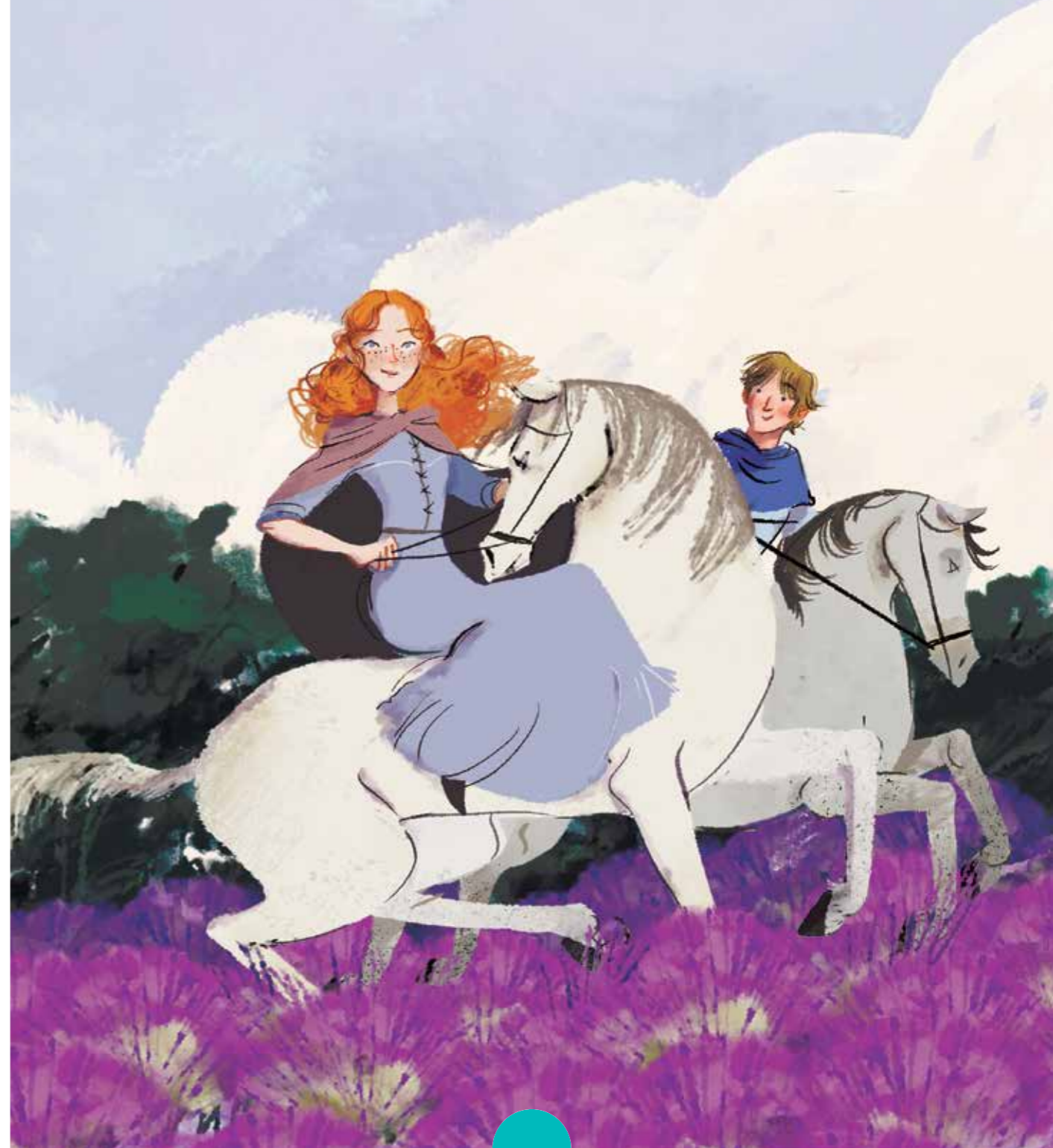
A weird wizard has collected the most famous magical things of all time in his mind-boggling mansion. Every room bristles with knowledge and magic: the flying carpet from Arabian Nights; the Narnia wardrobe; the Celtic sword of Durendal the Mighty; the Hogwarts sorting hat; Snow White's poisoned apple; Gilgamesh's flower of immortality; Mary Poppins' umbrella; and Pullman's Golden Compass.

More than 200 items
from literature of all time

A book that's as big as a
house, fascinating to read,
a feast for the eyes!



Age: 10+
Pages: 128 with 16 flaps
Format: 23x30 cm
Approx 36.600 words
16 rooms, more than 200 objects



The Boy in the Suitcase

by Zita Dazzi

Two suitcases get switched at the train station. The first one is filled with lots of presents that a loving granddad is taking to his grandson. The second suitcase contains a boy. The boy has been travelling for days to escape his country and re-join his family. When granddad and grandson open the case, they see two big eyes staring back at them. What will they do with the boy in the suitcase?

▶ **Based on actual events, a story where two cultures meet like old friends**

▶ **This book is endorsed by:**



Age: 9+
Pages: 144
Format: 14x20,5 cm
23.400 words
Middle grade fiction



IT'S PITCH BLACK IN HERE, but I'm used to it now.

When they put me in the suitcase they told me to sleep and not to think about it.

They told me not to cry, that it would be over soon.

I trust them.

I'm small and thin, I can fold myself up like a shirt.

The Jasmine Gang

by Zita Dazzi
Illustrations by Francesca Quatraro

Orso, Pizza, Becco and Bikini are nicknames of the children in the Jasmine Gang. They get caught up in an hilarious adventure in their courtyard when a fat, bossy man tries to get rid of the children who play there. There's a mystery about him and the children decide to solve it. Their methods are unusual to say the least: smelly nappies and other unlikely weapons. The kids expose a clandestine market of exotic animals and are rewarded with an incredible twist at the end of the story.



▶ **A great adventure about a gang of gutsy children!**



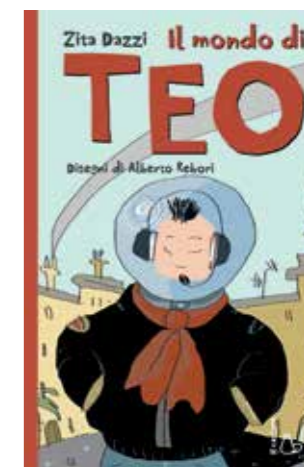
Age: 8+
Pages: 112 (b/w illustrations)
Format: 14x20,5 cm
14.800 words

My Name Is Theo

by Zita Dazzi
Illustrations by Alberto Rebori

Middle school can be tough, especially if you're the quickest when it comes to outsmarting the teacher but the laziest when it comes to passing a test. Like Theo for example. But not like Cleo, Theo's sister. She's fashionable and has boys falling at her feet. Theo doesn't understand what on earth she can be doing in the bathroom for hours or how many times she changes her clothes before she leaves the house. There's only football, and maybe TV series, in Theo's world, until he meets Cleo's new friend, Alina, with her magnificent mane of red hair.

▶ **Love, school and summer holidays: the laugh-out-loud escapades of a 14-year-old**



Age: 10+
Pages: 192 (b/w illustrations)
Format: 14x20,5 cm
35.600 words

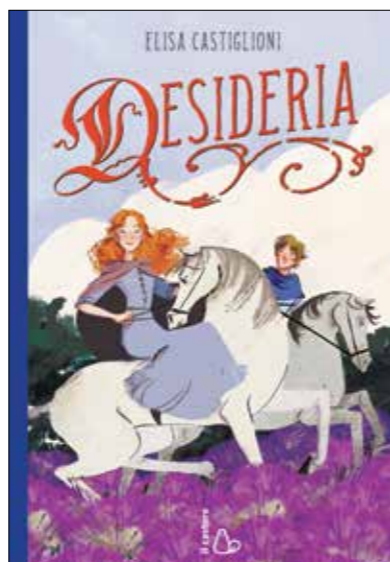
Rights sold in Lithuania

Désirée

by Elisa Castiglioni
Illustrations by Ilaria Urbinati



This exciting adventure for middle-graders is set in Provence in the year 1000AD. The protagonist, Désirée, is the daughter of the powerful feudal lord of the county but was raised with freedoms not normally accorded to young girls. She can write, count, is not afraid to speak her mind and is secretly learning how to ride a horse and fight with the sword. Her life in the castle means she is not free to choose her own destiny so, when her father departs on an important mission, she must deal with a surge in religious intolerance against Muslims, peasant revolts against taxes imposed by a disloyal governor, and a mysterious preacher enlisting children to fight in the Holy War. She also encounters the handsome Philippe, commissioned to paint her portrait for her husband-to-be. The shadows of the recent past are a difficult burden to bear, as is the threat of trouble in the future, but Désirée proves she is pure of heart and has the right qualities to become a true warrior princess.



Age: 9+
Pages: 240 (b/w illustrations)
Format: 14x20,5 cm
45.000 words



The Stars Shine on Rome

by Elisa Castiglioni
Illustrations by Ilaria Urbinati

Rome, First Century AD. Iris lives with her younger sister and her mother Tecla. Her father is away fighting for the empire and Iris spends her days either at school or in the bakery her mum opened when she was set free from slavery. When Tecla's former master shows up one day claiming Tecla has no right to be free and wants her back, Iris' quiet world falls apart. Her mother, a gentle, mild-mannered woman, decides to rely on the Roman justice system, but Iris rails against her mother's submissiveness: something has to be done! Iris sets off on an adventure across the Roman Empire with the help of her friend Aureliano. Will she be able to protect her family's freedom?



Age: 10+
Pages: 192 (b/w illustrations)
Format: 14x20,5 cm
31.800 words

► **An adventurous coming-of-age story set against the wonderful backdrop of Ancient Rome**

Reading the Clouds

by Elisa Castiglioni
Illustrations by Lucia Sforza

Leela loves her country, India; but when her grandmother dies everything changes. Her family decides to move to New England where new challenges await Leela: a new school, new friends, a new love and also bullying. To deal with it all, Leela remembers how her grandmother taught her that reading the clouds would give her the strength and freedom of a hawk. But the American sky is bleak and doesn't speak to her. Or perhaps she's not trying hard enough? Leela and her new friends learn how to read the American clouds and realize that they can tackle anything if they stick together.



Age: 10+
Pages: 176 (b/w illustrations)
Format: 14x20,5 cm
21.000 words

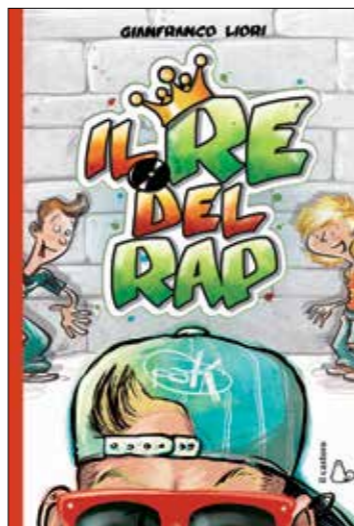
Rights sold in China

► **Winner 34th CentoYouth Literature Award**

The Hip-Hop King

by Gianfranco Liori
Illustrations by Margherita Allegri

Mario is twelve and an avid fan of hip-hop star PaniK. When he goes on a surprise family holiday to a luxury resort, he's presented with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to actually meet PaniK who's staying there too! But Mario's crazy plan to befriend the rapper is a bit risky. Can kidnapping the global celebrity really be the best way to start a friendship?



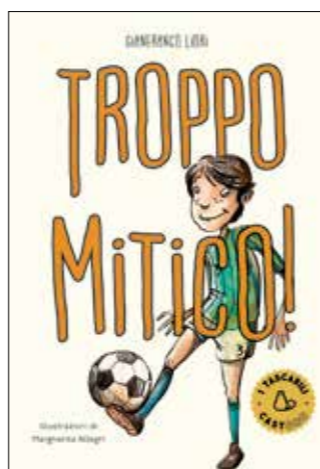
Age: 8+
Pages: 192 (b/w illustrations)
Format: 14x20,5 cm
29.250 words

► Pump-up the volume and be ready to laugh!

What a Legend!

by Gianfranco Liori
Illustrations by Margherita Allegri

Every child dreams of becoming a famous football player... but not Salvatore! He's 11 and would rather read books and study biology than kick a ball around a pitch. Unfortunately, his ambitious father has other ideas. From one day to the next, Salvatore finds himself caught up in a whirlwind of gruelling training sessions with the world's bossiest coach and a squad of new teammates. Salvatore survives a series of madcap adventures and emerges unscathed the other side, having found himself while managing to solve a mystery involving the championship's top goal scorer.



Age: 8+
Pages: 160 (b/w illustrations)
Format: 14x20,5 cm
27.400 words

Rights sold in Poland,
Turkey, China

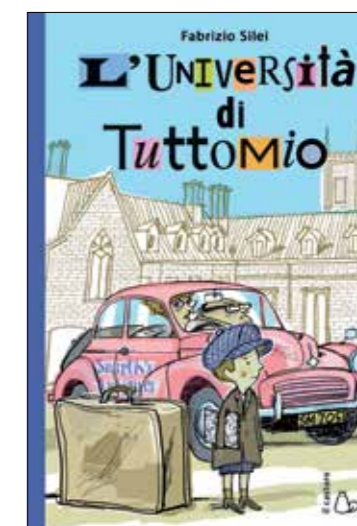
► Winner Sceglilibro Award
Winner Premio Castello Award

The All-Mine Academy

by Fabrizio Silei
Illustrations by Adriano Gon

Life is easy for the Smirths. They're greedy and disgustingly rich and there's nothing they don't have: everything except a son, or rather, someone to leave their fortune to. When they reluctantly decide to have one, he's not quite what they expected. First is a sweet, altruistic child whose generosity knows no bounds! Mr and Mrs Smirth send their son to the All-Mine Academy, hoping he'll learn how to behave properly; but instead of developing a lust for money, his goodness turns everything topsy-turvy.

► Finalist Strega Award 2018 (section 6+)
Shorlisted In Other Words Booktrust 2018



Age: 10+
Pages: 256 (b/w illustrations)
Format: 14x20,5 cm
54.000 words

Rights sold in Spain
(Spanish and Catalan),
Poland, Japan, Greece, Turkey

Granddad Trouble

by Fabrizio Silei
Illustrations by Adriano Gon

Martha and her family lead a quiet, uneventful life, until Grandad Constant arrives. Martha has never met him before and is completely taken aback: he's a daredevil granddad who has travelled the world and has endless stories to tell. Life will never be the same again! In a matter of weeks, Grandad wreaks havoc in family life, lurching from one hair-raising catastrophe to another and leaving a trail of destruction in his wake. Every page will have readers laughing out loud as Fabrizio Silei describes with comedic flair how new family bonds are eventually forged. Maybe Grandad Constant isn't that bad after all... be ready to be surprised!



Age: 10+
Pages: 128 (b/w illustrations)
Format: 14x20,5 cm
28.250 words

Rights sold in Germany, Greece,
Serbia, China

The Cinemà Family

by Andrea Valente

Illustrations by Julia Binfield

This book is a rollicking ride through some of the most memorable moments in the history of cinema, tracking the adventures of a very special family, the "Cinemàs". The story starts with Lucille, the woman courted by both Lumière brothers then races through an array of fascinating members of her family, from Annie, who saw King Kong climb the Empire State Building and Diego, who rode away with Zorro, to Luke who dreamed of Star Wars and Jedi, to Dorotea, Anita, Robin. All have a place of honour in the big, happy film family, thanks to the movies they are tied to: La Dolce Vita, E.T., Toy Story, The Lord of the Rings, Avatar...



Age: 10+
Pages: 160 (b/w illustrations)
Format: 14x20,5 cm
27.850 words

Rights sold in Turkey

Dancing in the Moonlight

by Andrea Valente

The moon has had a special significance for many famous figures, both now and in the past. We could go all the way back to Adam and Eve, then continue with Aristotle, Montezuma, Mad Orlando, Cyrano De Bergerac, Ludwig Van Beethoven, Orson Welles, Frank Sinatra, Marilyn Monroe and Yuri Gagarin, to name but a few. Like the 28 lunar phases, this book has 28 chapters outlining the special relationships each figure had with our satellite: Frank Sinatra was in awe of it when he sang Blue Moon; Armstrong was the first man to set foot upon it; and Méliès celebrated the Moon with the first special effects in cinema history.



Age: 9+
Pages: 128 (b/w illustrations)
Format: 14x20,5 cm
12.750 words



Little Peg Goes to Town Little Peg and the Plastic Mountain

by Alessandro Gatti

Illustrations by Giulia Sagramola

Peg is a lively, resourceful little girl who lives with her grandpa in a small village, where they produce excellent milk. She loves nature and spends most of her time with a very peculiar friend: Mr. Acklethorpe, a smart, funny teddy bear who gives her advice in every situation (though he's just a little bit grumpy). Together, Little Peg and Mr. Acklethorpe will meet many new friends and have lots of adventures!

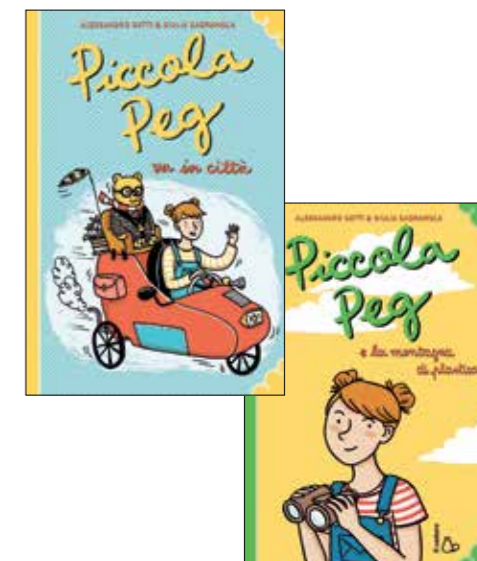


The Big Tree

by Luisa Mattia

Illustrations by Barbara Nascimbeni

Four plucky children - Sofia from Italy, her best friend Suleiman from Africa, Wilson from the Philippines and Gioconda whose mum is Romanian and dad is from Brazil - live in a small, multi-cultural district called Case Basse, on the outskirts of a big city. They spend time together around a big tree and begin to see it as part of the gang. Some nasty characters appear one day and want to chop it down to build a huge carpark in its place. Is this the end for the Big Tree? Definitely not!



Age: 6+
Pages: 128 (2 colours)
Format: 14x20,5 cm
Approx 15.500 words

Rights sold in Turkey, Korea



Age: 8+
Pages: 176 (b/w illustrations)
Format: 14x20,5 cm
18.850 words

Rights sold in Turkey, Korea

The Finish Line

by Paola Zannoner

Leo is a fifteen-year-old boy and talented football player. He is very full of himself until a motorbike accident confines him to a wheelchair. It all gets too much for Leo, he can't bear it and starts to lash out at family and friends, pushing them all away.

The only one resilient enough to get through the wall he builds around himself is Viola, a lively and vivacious fellow athlete and hurdler.

They strike up a friendship and, with Viola's help, Leo eventually makes a successful return to school and even takes up basketball. He starts building himself a new life, sure in his mind what he wants from it.



Age: 12+
Pages: 160
Format: 14x21 cm
34.500 words

Rights sold in Brazil,
Turkey, Hungary, China

▶ There's no hurdle we can't get over with the help of a friend

▶ Awarded with Bancarellino Prize 2004

TWENTY TO SEVEN

Leo wakes up shortly before the alarm starts working, at twenty to seven. The hand glides confident towards the mobile phone, the screen indicates twenty-one to seven, and he's already seated on the bed. With a quick gesture he pushes aside the duvet. It's cold, it's dark, but he springs to his feet and goes towards the bathroom without even turning the lights on. In a hurry he puts on his tracksuit and running shoes.

Zorro in the Snow

by Paola Zannoner

Luca leads a pretty dull life: college, friends, and dreary afternoons. Out snowboarding one day, he nearly dies in an avalanche but is saved by Bruno, a volunteer with the mountain rescue service, and Zorro, his rescue dog. Surviving the ordeal convinces Luca that he, too, should join the mountain rescue squad and have his own dog. Mary is a veterinary student volunteering at the local kennels where six adorable mongrel puppies have just arrived in need of a home. Luca and Mary meet there, and through their love for dogs, discover what it means to love and take care of somebody, no matter how great or small.

▶ Finalist 1st Strega Award 2016 (section 11+)
Finalist Bancarellino Award 2015
Winner Castello di Sanguinetto Award 2016
Winner Asti d'Appello Junior 2017



Age: 12+
Pages: 192
Format: 14x21 cm
42.600 words

Rights sold in Bulgaria,
Turkey, China

Six Dancers for a Dad

by Paola Zannoner

Bianca is nearly thirteen and dreams of becoming a ballerina. She wants to attend the ballet academy in the city but her family won't hear of it. Bianca goes ahead, nevertheless, and applies for an audition. To her great surprise, she gets in, but can she go by herself? Since her mum can't give up her job, dad must. Father and daughter move to the city where Dad rents a small flat. Bianca's dream has come true! But nothing is as easy as it seems. Bianca has to cope with ballet training, friendship and first love. Dad's life is also very busy: Bianca's new friends take up residence in her house and Dad has to cook, shop, and tidy up after them all, as well as going to his new teaching job! A crisp, coming-of-age story with a father and daughter duo as its protagonists.



Age: 11+
Pages: 208
Format: 14x21 cm
48.300 words

Rights sold in Turkey

Code.Name.Zero

by Luigi Ballerini

A teenage boy is running on the treadmill when there's a sudden blackout. The gym is plunged into darkness and he has to grope around for the exit. Trying one door after another, he eventually finds the way out. Once outside, he understands nothing of what he finds there. Until then, the sole purpose of his life, shut off from reality in a high-tech world, had been to become a war drone pilot. He has no friends, no school, no family and has been lulled to sleep since childhood by a metallic voice named MADAR. His life has been one of secrecy and isolation, hidden away from any external contact. Out in the outside world, he has little hope of survival. A young couple finds him by the roadside and pick him up. They have no idea what they are getting themselves into...



Age: 13+
Pages: 192
Format: 14x21 cm
43.000 words

Rights sold in Mexico and Central America, The Netherlands, Poland, Lithuania, Slovenia, Malta

▶ **Winner Bancarellino Award 2016 (best YA fiction)**

ZERO

IT'S TOO DARK TO BE DARK.

I don't even know how long I've been here.

Immobile.

Seems like eternity.

I don't like it: this is really too dark, it's never happened before. Sometimes the light might cut out for a few minutes, but the blue lights on the ceiling cornice would go on immediately to show the outlines of things. The ones that stay on when I sleep.

(Im)Perfects

by Luigi Ballerini

It's Year 72 since the Foundation of the System. Genetic engineering has been harnessed to produce a two-class society: a race of synthesized Perfects identified by a bar code on their necks, and an underclass of Imperfects born by natural birth to serve the Perfects.

Two Perfect boys and a Perfect girl are chosen to compete in a reality talent show broadcast across the system. To win the public vote means to become a champion of the System and be venerated like a god. But all is not what it seems, both in the reality show and behind the perfect exteriors of the contestants. They harbour deep secrets and a growing sense of rebellion.



Age: 13+
Pages: 304
Format: 14x21 cm
67.200 words

Rights sold in The Netherlands

▶ **Are you perfect?
Are you the best?
Are you happy?**

**DAY 11. MONTH 10.
YEAR 72 SINCE SYSTEM FOUNDATION.
19:12**

The underground is strange, the way a train announces its arrival with a warm, artificial wind that smells of metal. It was in Eira P's mouth, that wind, and it tasted of blood. The same taste you get when you brush your teeth too hard and blood comes out in the sink.

The First Time Ever

Various Authors

Our first love, our first solo trip, our first betrayal, our first “no”, our first kiss, our first job. We’ve all had “first times” and teenagers are only too familiar with them: will they be ready to face them head on? Ten of Italy’s top children’s writers and two great graphic novelists capture a selection of these memorable moments and the emotions they entail.



Age: 12+
Pages: 240
Format: 14x21 cm
Approx 44.000 words

Rights sold in Slovenia

▶ **12 memorable milestones, 12 short stories, the thrill of first times**

Say It Loud!

Various Authors

Two ground-breaking graphic novels and a ten-story compilation about pain, desire, shyness, bravery, guilt, love, despair, hate, fear, jealousy, joy and shame, by some of Italy’s best children’s writers. Each author was given the unusual task of writing a story about a different feeling without naming it. An inspiring challenge for the writers and a great reward for their readers.



Age: 12+
Pages: 240
Format: 14x21 cm
Approx 49.250 words

Rights sold in Hungary

This Is Me

by L. Cima and A. Strada

Everything seems fine in Viola’s life: average marks at school, a best friend to rely on, and a crush on Michele, who seems to have finally noticed her. So why does she feel invisible most of the time? She’s thirteen and needs to face facts: she spends more time with granma than her parents because they are never at home. Why? Can it really just be because of work? Viola unveils a shocking secret: her father has another family, his real one, and they live elsewhere. Viola has to learn how to deal with it: when the dust finally settles, she is a stronger person than she could have ever imagined.

▶ **An honest and uncompromising coming-of-age story, with a message of hope**



Age: 11+
Pages: 144
Format: 14x21 cm
26.400 words

Rights sold in Turkey, Taiwan

Bella and Gustavo

by Zita Dazzi

Petra and Nino meet in one of those long summers before high school. Everyone thinks they’d be perfect together but it takes a while for the couple to realise it, both are unable to make the first move. That all changes when they meet Gustavo, a vagrant living in the park. Gustavo is a gruff old man who has an adorable friend - Bella, a lovely puppy - by his side at all times. The pair strikes up a friendship with Gustavo. When the old man is brutally attacked, Petra and Nino have the opportunity to prove that love can mean so much more than just gazing into someone’s eyes.

▶ **A enchanting story of love, friendship, and solidarity**



Age: 12+
Pages: 208
Format: 14x21 cm
33.000 words



Less than a Day

by A. Ferrara and G. Sgardoli

14-year-old Leon was adopted as a child but still remembers his family and native country vividly. His foster parents are nice people, but sometimes he feels he doesn't belong. This leads him to make the impulsive decision to steal his foster father's car and leave: he may be young but he knows how to drive. The plan is to go back to his real home, but where exactly is that now? Where does he really belong? Leon's journey starts at four in the afternoon but it lasts less than a day. Will he find the answers he's looking for?



Age: 12+
Pages: 144
Format: 14x21 cm
25.500 words

► **A compelling, on-the-road story by two of Italy's most successful YA authors**

Ciro's Secret

by Antonio Ferrara
Illustrations by Lorenzo Manià

Ciro is a withdrawn boy, the complete opposite of his handsome, outgoing brother. When beautiful Lia arrives in their life, both fall for her, but who will she choose? When Lia goes back to her home town, Hiro starts chatting with her on Facebook... pretending to be his brother.



Drawing turns out to be much easier than talking. He fills pages after pages with sketches and stories, which end up forming the basis of a graphic novel on the event which caused him so much pain, his father's death. Nothing will be the same again.



Age: 12+
Pages: 168
Format: 14x21 cm
24.800 words

INDEX

NEW TITLES

Someone like Anthony	2
A Good Fireman	3
HB Pencil	4
Orcobello	5
The Red Zone	6
Come Back to Me	7
The 50 Little Revolutions Handbook	8
The 50 Adventures Handbook	9
The 50 Secrets Missions Handbook	9

PRE SCHOOL

Little Feelings	11
I Like and I Don't Like	12
The Blue Goose	13
Tandem	14

PICTURE BOOKS

She's Not a Duck!	16
Yawns	16
Have You Seen Anna?	17
How the Teacher Really Works	17

Story of an Ink Drop and a Snowflake	18
The Kind Crocodile	18
I Am a Horse	19
Happy Cattle Thief	19
My Brother Is an Animal	20
The Red Hood	20
A Little Darkness	21
The Chicken and the Egg	21
Achoo!	21
The Secret Path	22
Open Your Window!	22
Look and Find Art	22
So Many Families!	22

NON-FICTION

My Diary of Dreams, Thoughts, Secrets, Plans and Giggles	24
Pop-up Christmas Tree	25
The Big Book of Magical Objects	26
The Boy in the Suitcase	28

FICTION

The Jasmine Gang	29
My Name is Theo	29
Désirée	30
The Stars Shine on Rome	31
Reading the Clouds	31
The Hip-Hop King	32
What a Legend!	32
The All-Mine Academy	33
Granddad Trouble	33
The Cinemà Family	34
Dancing in the Moonlight	34
Little Peg Goes to Town	35
Little Peg and the Plastic Mountain	35
The Big Tree	35
The Finish Line	36
Zorro in the Snow	37
Six Dancers for a Dad	37
Code.Name.Zero	38
(Im)perfects	39
The First Time Ever	40
Say It Loud!	40
This Is Me	41
Bella and Gustavo	41
Less than a Day	42
Ciro's Secret	42

Editrice Il Castoro S.r.l.
viale Andrea Doria 7, 20124 Milano - Italy

Rights enquiries:
Andreina Speciale - speciale@castoro-on-line.it

info@castoro-on-line.it - www.castoro-on-line.it
tel. +39 02 29513529 fax. +39 02 29529896

Follow us on:

