



il castoro  
25 Years



# RIGHTS LIST

## 2018

NEW  
TITLES

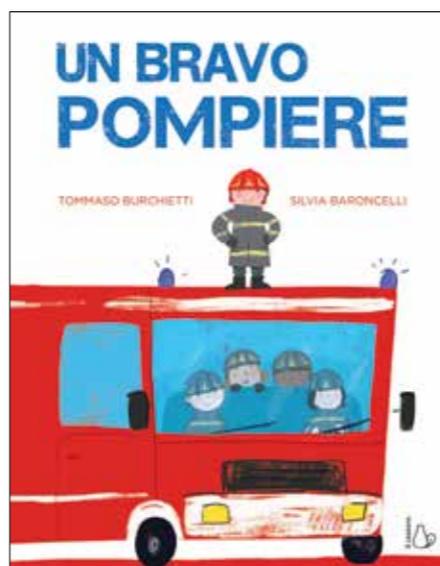


## A Good Fireman

by Tommaso Burchiotti  
Illustrations by Silvia Baroncelli



Being a fireman is not for everybody! The little kid in this story knows what it takes to be a good one. He can put his clothes on really quickly, he 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!



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

▶ Every child dreams of being a fireman!



## A Good Vet

by Donata Quagliotti  
Illustrations by Silvia Baroncelli



What makes a good vet? The little girl in this story knows and she's busy putting it into practice in her game. She's patient with all creatures, however great or small. She doesn't get scared: she's ready for emergencies and is good at cheering up patients and owners alike. She has hugs for everyone and does her very best ...until it's time for dinner!

▶ A new picture books' series about jobs

▶ Written by real professionals



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

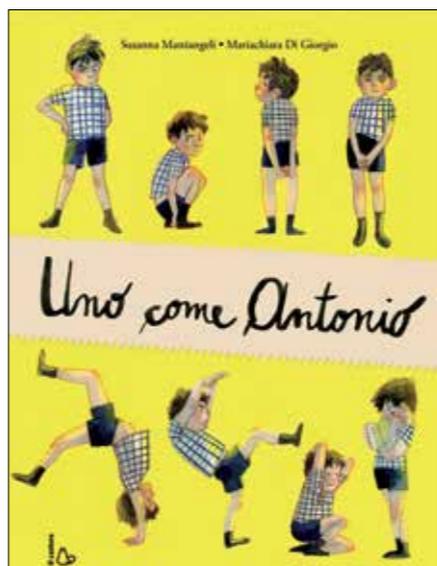


# Someone Like Anthony

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



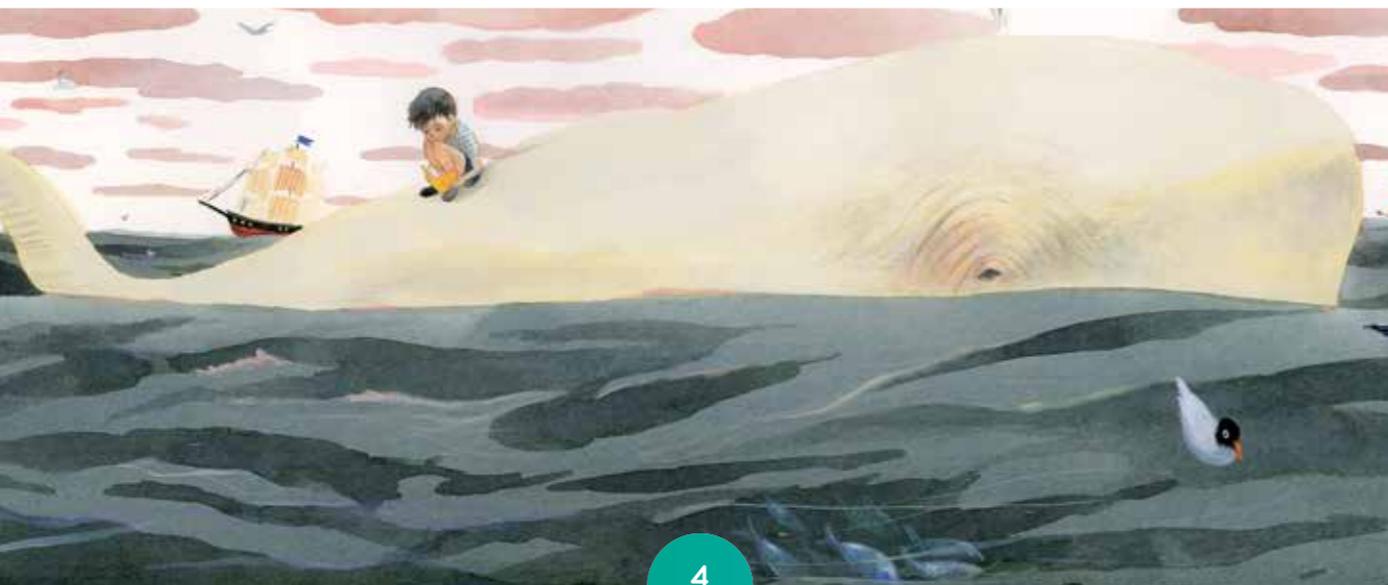
Age: 4+  
Pages: 32  
Format: 23x30 cm  
Picture book

Rights sold in France, Spanish World, Ukraine, Turkey, Arabic World



ANDERSEN

Author and illustrator awarded with 2018 Italian Andersen Prize



# HB Pencil

by Susanna Mattiangeli  
Illustrations by Rita Petruccioli



«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 hilarious notebook HB Pencil tells us about her life at school, her heartthrob Jacob, as well as her favourite writing spot (the fridge) and her favourite comic strip, Powercat. Italian Andersen award winner Susanna Mattiangeli takes readers through a cavalcade of genres, revealing beautifully how easy it is to inhabit both real and imaginary worlds.

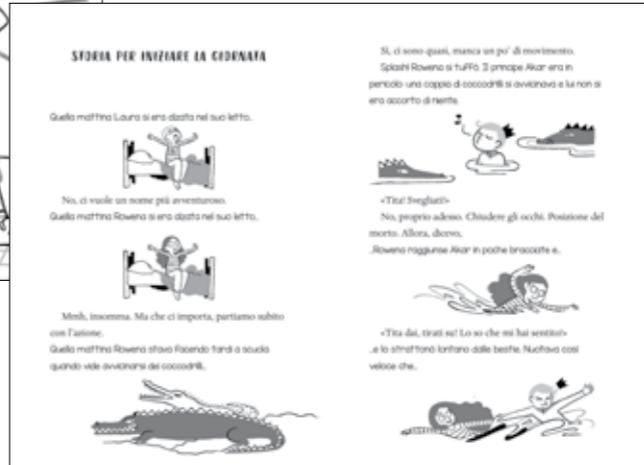


Age: 7+  
Pages: 128 (b/w illustrations)  
Format: 14x20,5 cm  
12.000 words  
Fiction

Rights sold in Spain (Spanish & Catalan World), Turkey, Korea



scriveva questa Matita HB, si forse arriveranno gli alieni e diranno qualcosa che non si capisce bene. In ogni caso io a quel punto avrò molte altre cose da fare, perché sarò impegnata nelle mie avventure che poi racconterò in libri lunghi come i magari diventeranno dei film. E se mi chiederanno di recitare in uno di quei film io dirò di sì e mi diventerò un successo.



STORIA PER INIZIARE LA CODONATA

Quello mattina Laura si era distesa nel suo letto.



No, ti vuole un nome più avventuroso.

Quello mattina Rowena si era distesa nel suo letto.



Mmh, insomma. Ma che ci importa, partiamo subito con l'azione.

Quello mattina Rowena stava facendo tardi a scuola quando vide un'azione dei coccodrilli.



Sì, ci sono quasi, manca un po' di movimento.

Spicchi Rowena si tuffò. Il principe Avar era in pericolo: una coppia di coccodrilli si avventurava e lui non si era accorto di niente.



«Tità! Svegliati!»

No, proprio adesso. Chiudere gli occhi. Posizione del morto. Allora, dormi.

Rowena raggiunse Avar in poche bracciate e...



«Tità dà, tirati su! Lo so che mi hai svegliato...»

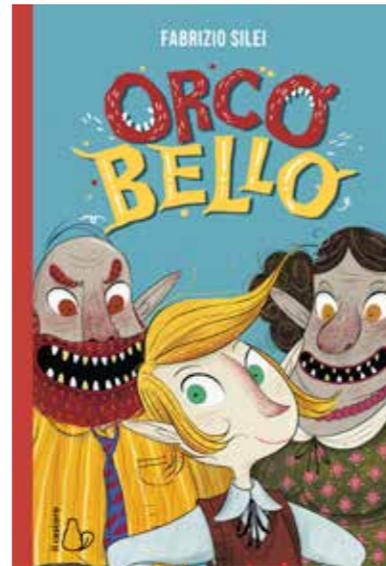
...a lo stralzo lontano dalle bestie. Nuffano così veloce che...



# Adorcable

by Fabrizio Silei  
Illustrations by Fabrizio Di Baldo

There's big news in Orchidville! Orcnest, the mayor, 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. Adorcable is only a blond, green eyed beauty with the best manners and the biggest smile they've ever seen. Orcnest's rancid reputation is in danger!



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

Rights sold in Spain (Spanish & Catalan World)

► **Strega-award finalist and Andersen-prized author**

► **The uniquely funny adventures of an orc who isn't ugly!**



# Adorcable and the Stolen Orchid

by Fabrizio Silei  
Illustrations by Fabrizio Di Baldo

Adorcable the orc and Isabella the human have been married for a few years. They live in the land of humans, where the beautiful Isabella gave birth to a gorgeous girl...who snores like a pig and burps like a sailor! Named after the city of orcs, baby Orchid may look like an innocent cherub, but she soon shows her true orc colours. At the age of six, she misses grandpa so much that she sets foot to grandpa's town, where she falls victim to a kidnapping and ends up in the castle dungeon, reputedly haunted. Will the meek Orchidville Ghost be able to handle such a scamp?



Age: 8+  
Pages: 144 (b/w illustrations)  
Format: 14x20,5 cm  
15.000 words  
Fiction  
Pub date: September 2019

Rights sold in Spain (Spanish & Catalan World)

► **An ode to diversity and inclusion**



## Rebecca and the Violin Spider

By Olivia Corio

Orlando D'Eath is not a lucky boy. He has an ill-omened name and is unlucky in life. In his new foster home, he soon realizes misfortune has followed him, as the parents, Violet and Gustav Villin, and their four children, are not as perfect as they seem. The only person who speaks to him at school is Rebecca McMuffle, a creepy girl who dresses like an old lady and has a Violin Spider as a pet. Rebecca lives deep in the forest, in a house she shares with her taxidermist mother and many stuffed animals. Intrigued and scared by her in equal measure, Orlando still feels safe with Rebecca - until he comes across a ginormous, eight-legged hairy secret in her attic.



Age: 11+  
Pages: approx. 240  
Format: 14x21 cm  
Words: approx. 60.000  
Fiction

▶ A boy with a black cloud over him, four evil siblings, a creepy girl who dresses up like an old lady and a humongous spider.

▶ High-spirited, gothicky and Burtonesque

## 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 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.



Age: 13+  
Pages: approx. 288  
Format: 14x21 cm  
Words: approx. 61.000  
YA Fiction

▶ A compelling YA novel with a bewitched atmosphere

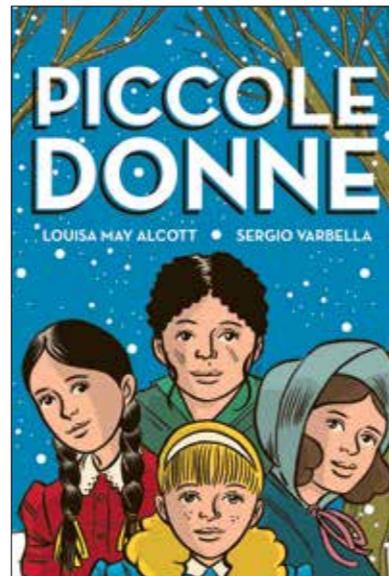
▶ By the bestselling author of Code.Name.Zero  
2016 Bancarellino Award winner (best YA fiction)

# Little Women

By Louisa May Alcott and Sergio Varbella

Beautiful Meg, tomboy Jo, gentle Beth and artistic Amy. The four March sisters couldn't be more different. With their dad away at war and their mother working to support the family, the girls struggle with a variety of problems and turn to each other for support. Whether they're putting on a play, setting up a secret society, or celebrating Christmas, there's one thing they can't help wondering: will Dad come home safely?

▶ **A vibrant adaptation that stays true to the spirit of the popular classic**



Age: 9+  
 Pages: approx. 224  
 Format: 14x20,5 cm  
 Words: approx. 6.000  
 Middle grade graphic novel

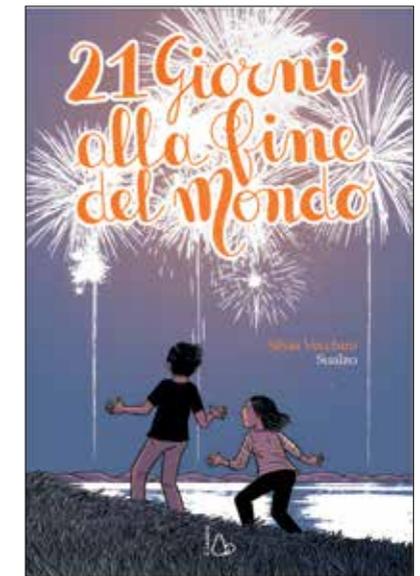


# 21 Days to the End of the World

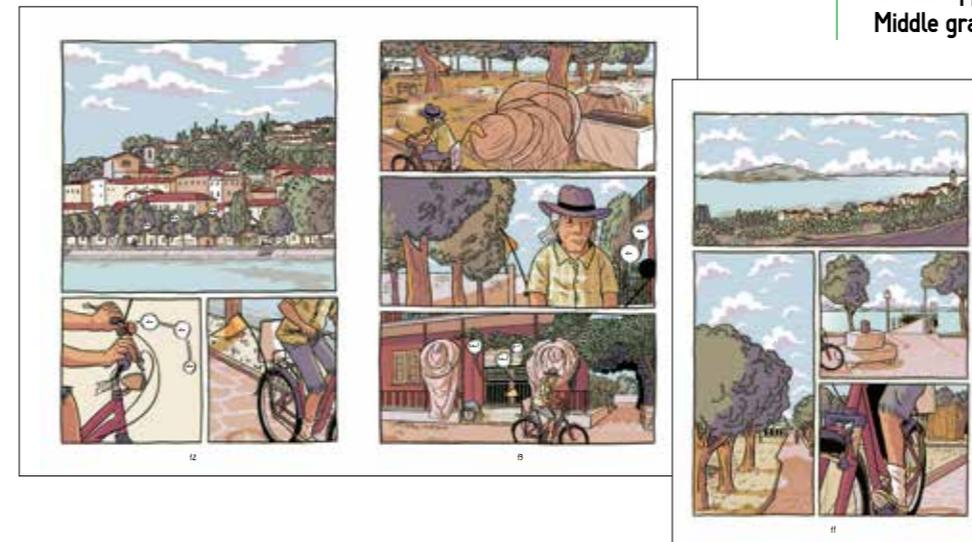
By Silvia Vecchini and Sualzo

Halfway through summer, Lisa receives a long-awaited visit. Her old friend Alex is back. She hasn't seen him since he fled the village years ago. Against his father's will, Alex starts to hang out with Lisa, to finish a raft they'd started building as children. Lisa realizes it's not a game anymore for Alex and feels compelled to find out what really happened six years ago. She will have to rely on other people's memories, on the real meaning of karate's principles and on the importance of facing the truth.

There are twenty-one days left until Lisa's karate show, until fireworks night, and until an anniversary Lisa knows nothing about. There are also twenty-one days left until an event that one crackpot in the village declaims "the end of the world".



Age: 9+  
 Pages: 208 (full colour)  
 Format: 14x20,5 cm  
 Words: approx. 4.000  
 Middle grade graphic novel



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

by Cristina Petit  
Illustrations by Francesco Fagnani



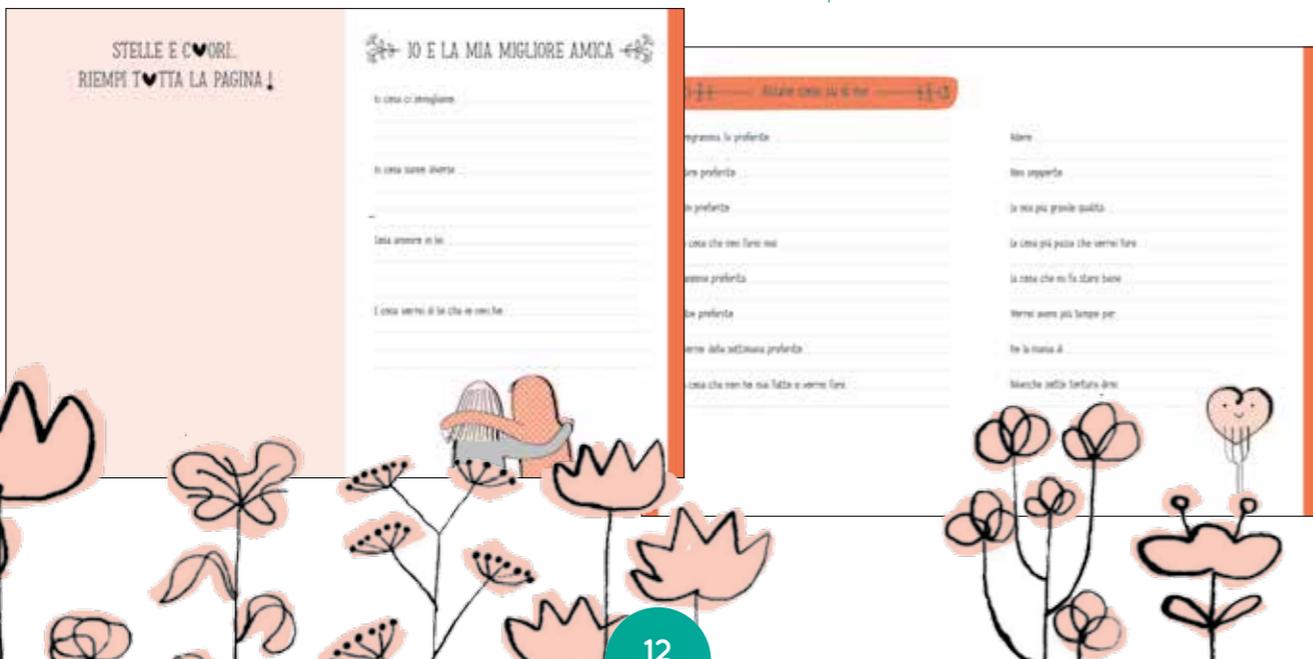
Children love having a special place to keep their thoughts and doodles, not to mention their secret dreams and favourite things. This diary will inspire them to look inside themselves, explore their inner world and get their creative juices going in drawing and colouring activities. It is packed full 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!



# My Diary of Dreams, Thoughts, Secrets, Plans and Giggles (with My Friends)

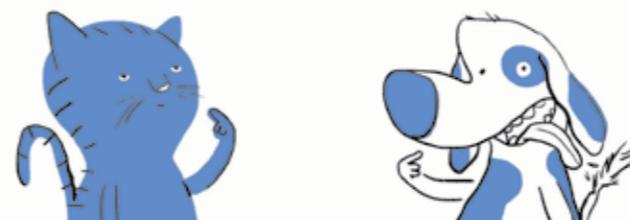
by Cristina Petit  
Illustrations by Francesco Fagnani



Do you and your friends like the same things? What are your best memories and your biggest dreams? Can you guess what your classmates want to be when they grow up? Will they stay in your town or go abroad? What would you like to say to your BFF but you’ve never had the nerve to? Fun lists, dates to remember, selfies to stick on and secrets to confess. This diary is for you and your friends: to share, to fill up together or to swap on the last day of school.



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



## 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

Rights sold in Germany, Turkey, Korea



## 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!**

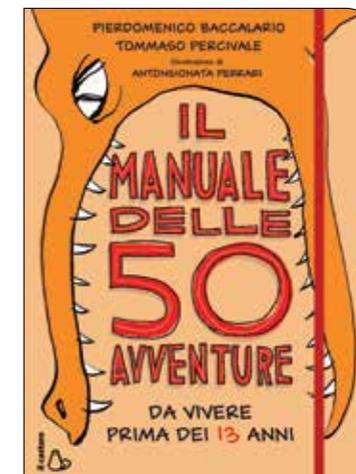
▶ **100.000 in-print copies all over the world**

## 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 asking someone out. But watch out: there could be some grown-ups about!

▶ **Cool kids do it by themselves!**



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), Portugal, Russia, Czech Republic, The Netherlands, Sweden, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Turkey, Greece, Albania, Japan, Korea, China



Age: 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, China



## 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

Rights sold in Chile



**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

Rights sold in Chile



AND YOU, WHAT DO YOU LIKE?



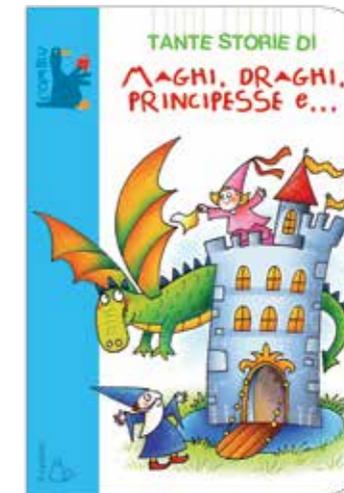
# THE BLUE GOOSE series

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

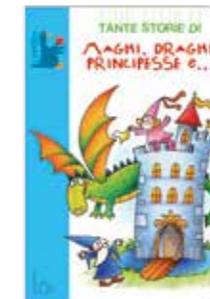
Rights sold in China, Turkey



Many Stories of Tyrannosaurs and Diplodocuses...



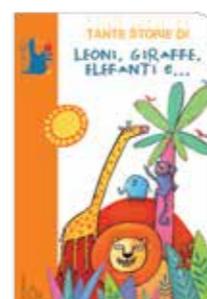
Many Stories of Cats, Frogs and Bunnies...



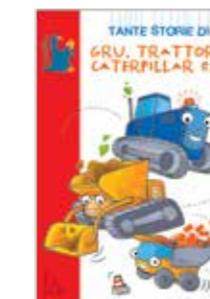
Many Stories of Wizards, Princesses and Dragons...



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!

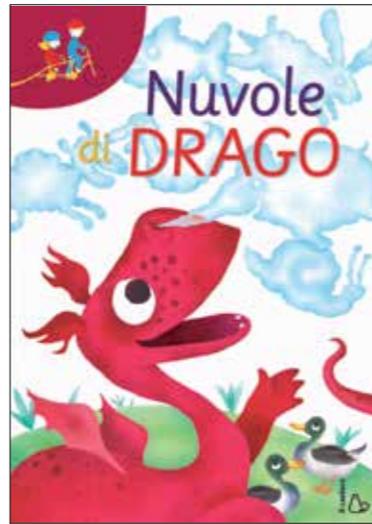
Various Authors  
Created by Lodovica Cima

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

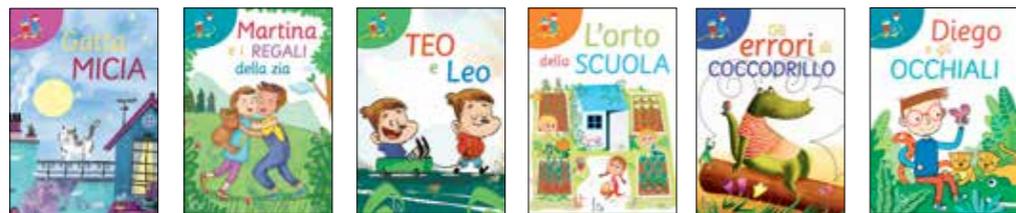
Written in Sassoon Primary, an easy-to-read typeface designed for and with children to improve literacy by bridging the gap between reading and handwriting.



Help! Grown-Ups! Dragon's Clouds Beach Friends The Scatty Fairy

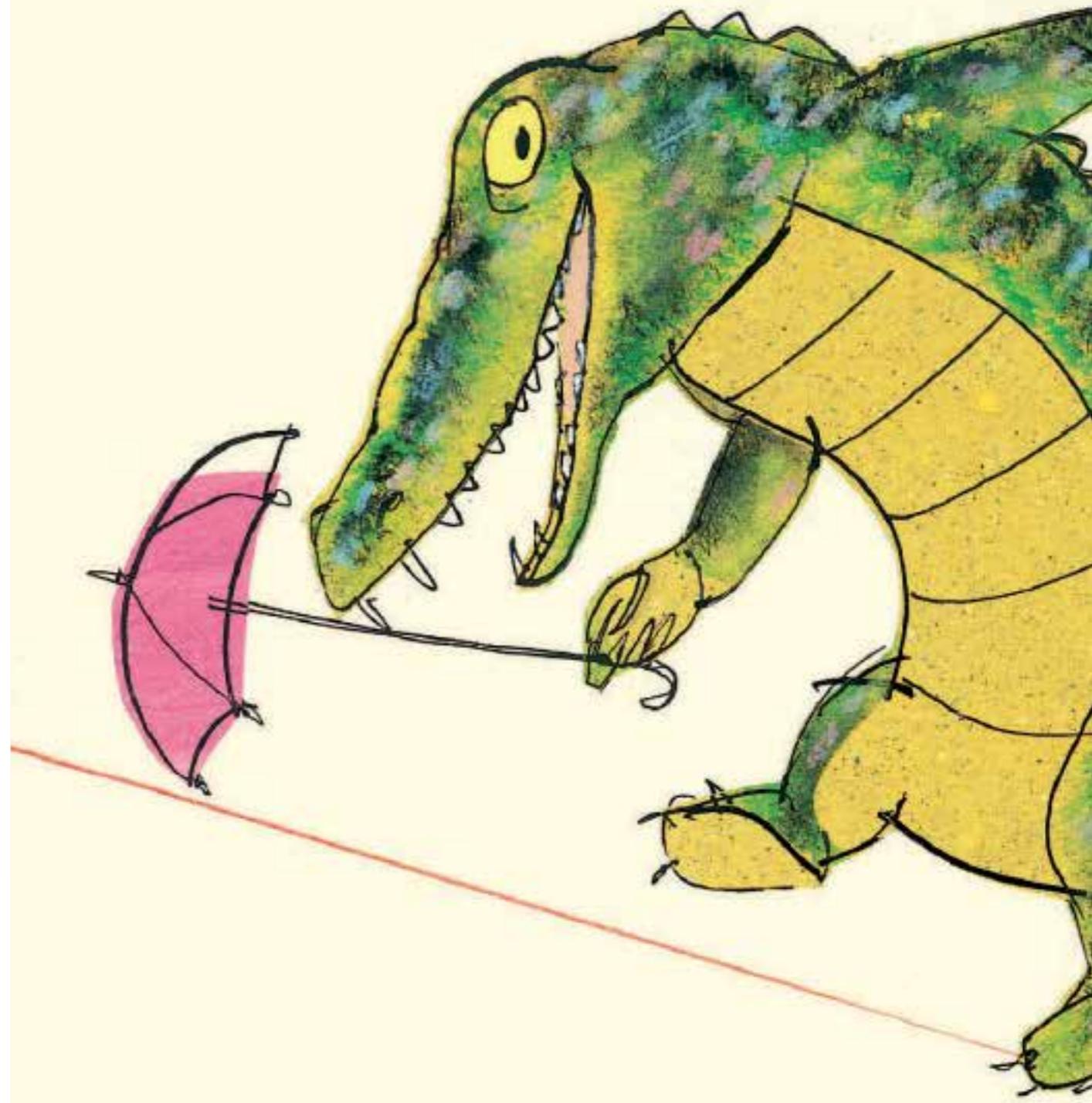


Tales From Under The Bed Bumblebee Goes Adventuring In The Land Of Words Molly And Her Hat Eugene, You Genius! Blueberry Bear



Kitty Cat Molly and Auntie's Gifts Teo and Leo The School Garden The Crocodile's Mistakes Diego's Glasses

# 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, where Stella quietly waits 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

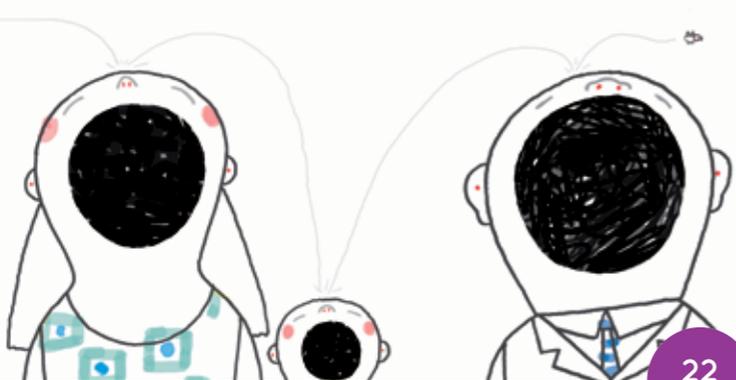
Rights sold in Spain (Spanish and Catalan), Russia, Ukraine, China

► 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, 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. Sometimes 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!



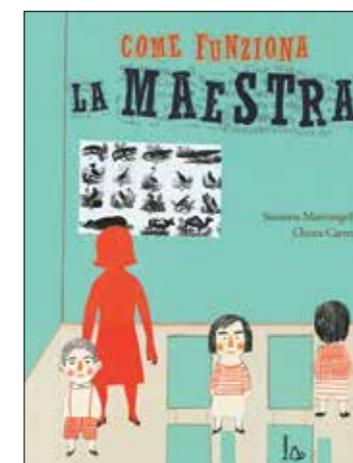
Age: 4  
Pages: 32  
Format: 23x30 cm

Rights sold in Spain (Spanish), Arabic, Korea, Turkey, 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, Denmark, Portugal, Slovenia, Croatia, Greece, Turkey, Latin America

► 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

## 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!



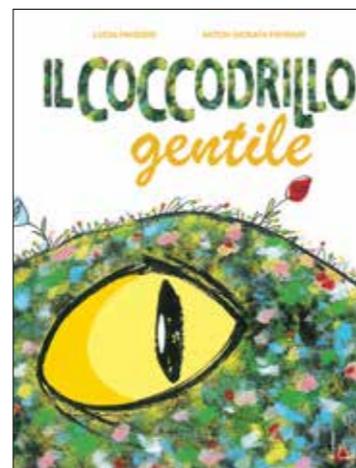
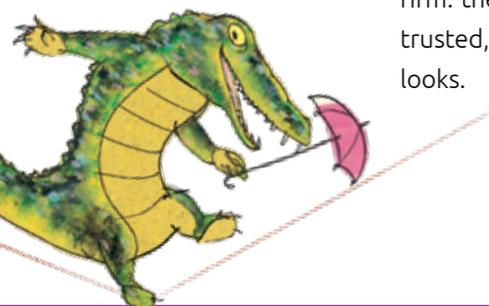
Age: 4+  
Pages: 32  
Format: 23x30 cm

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

## 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), Greece, Arabic, Japan, Korea, 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

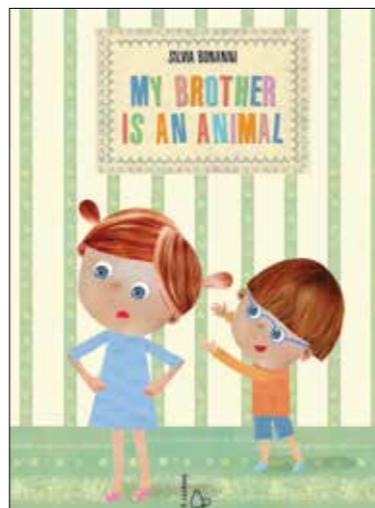


## My Brother Is an Animal!

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, 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 slow 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!



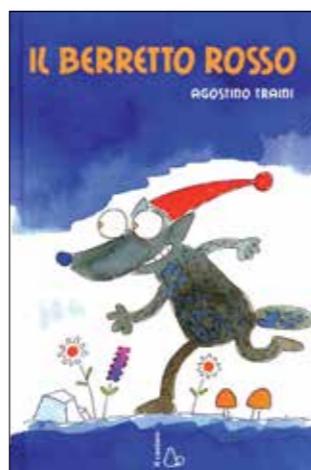
Age: 3+  
Pages: 48, with 9 flaps  
Format: 23x30 cm

Rights sold in Korea, China

## The Red Hood

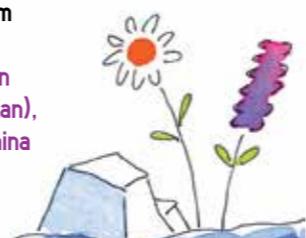
by Agostino Traini

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



## 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

## 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

## 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 both adults and children.

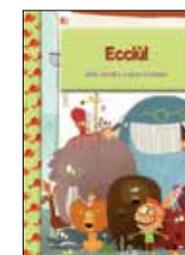


Age: 4+  
Pages: 40  
Format: 28x35,5 cm  
Rights sold in China

## 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. 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



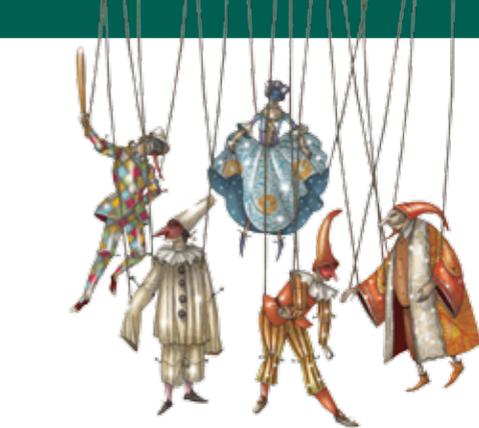
## The Big Book of Magical Objects

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

Rights sold in Russia

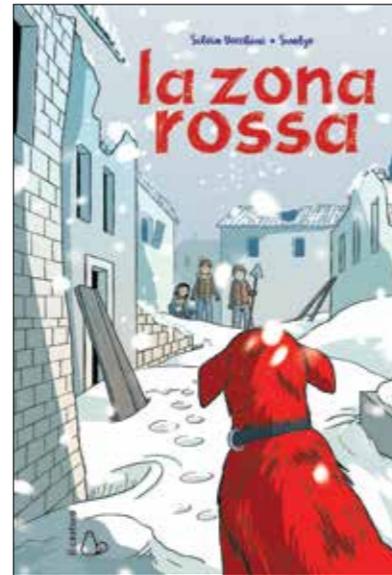


# The Red Zone

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 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, Latin America, Korea

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

▶ Winner "Attilio Micheluzzi" Prize



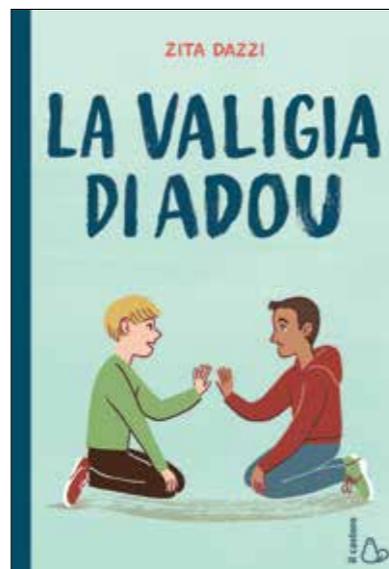
## The Boy in the Suitcase

by Zita Dazzi

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; he 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!**



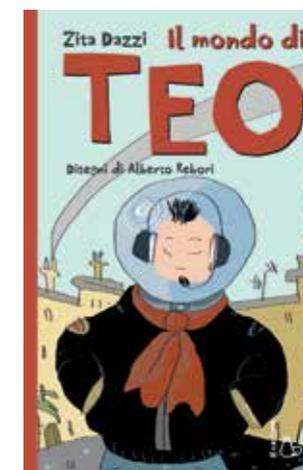
Age: 8+  
Pages: 112 (b/w illustrations)  
Format: 14x20,5 cm  
14.800 words

## 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

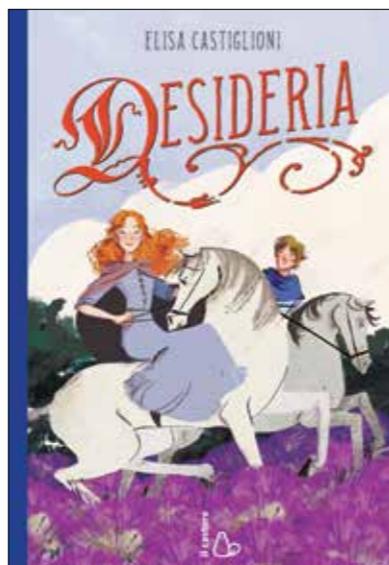
Rights sold in Lithuania

## 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. 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 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**

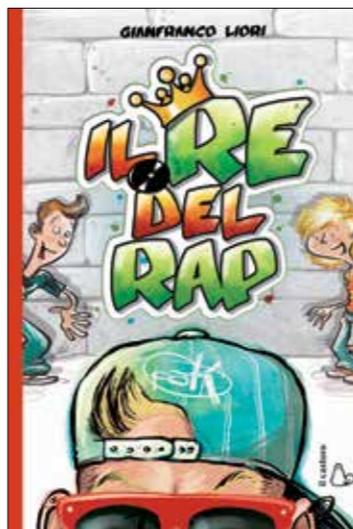
**Rights sold in China**

► **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?



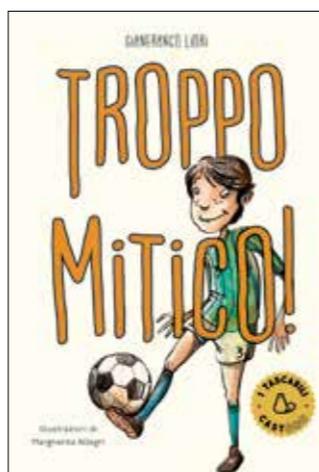
Age: 8+  
Pages: 192 (b/w illustrations)  
Format: 14x20,5 cm  
29.250 words

► 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 Serbia,  
Poland, Turkey, China

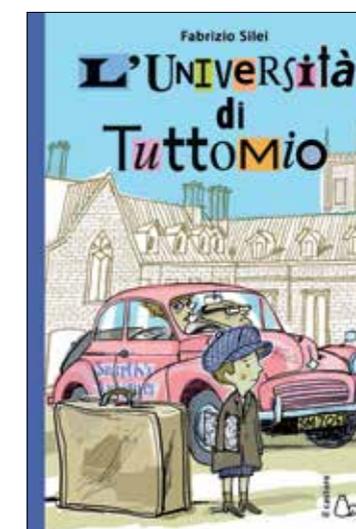
► Winner Sceglilibro Award  
Winner Premio Castello Award

## 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, Romania, 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. 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... 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

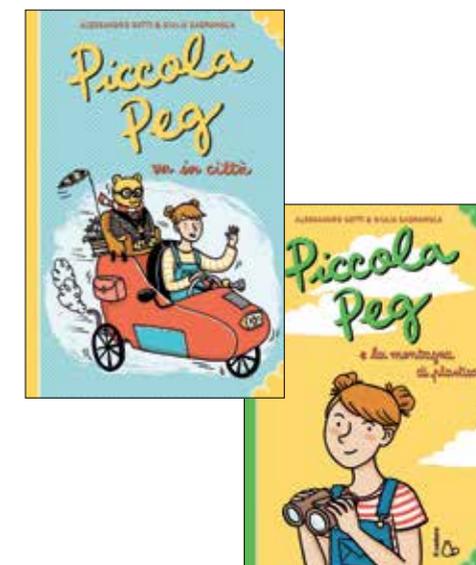
Peg is a lively, resourceful little girl who lives with her grandpa in a small village, where they produce excellent milk. She loves nature and spends most of her time with a very peculiar friend: Mr. Acklethorpe, a smart, funny teddy bear who gives her advice in every situation (though he's just a little 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 Russia, 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 Russia, 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 France, 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**

**T**he 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.



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



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

Rights sold in Slovenia

## 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 a long summer 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. 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 novel about trust and belonging

## 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, Giro 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

p. 2

PRE SCHOOL

p. 17

PICTURE BOOKS

p. 22

NON-FICTION & GRAPHIC NOVELS

p. 28

FICTION

p. 31



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

Rights enquiries:  
Andreina Speciale - [speciale@castoro-on-line.it](mailto:speciale@castoro-on-line.it)

[info@castoro-on-line.it](mailto:info@castoro-on-line.it) - [www.castoro-on-line.it](http://www.castoro-on-line.it)  
tel. +39 02 29513529 fax. +39 02 29529896

Follow us on:

