



orecchio acerbo)

Rights List Bologna Children's Book Fair 2026

orecchio acerbo)

WINNER OF THE BOP BEST CHILDREN'S PUBLISHER OF THE YEAR 2017, EUROPE



He would be there sleeping, on the bench.
I used to see him, every morning, on my way to school.



Invisible.
Great Magic.

Then everyone applauds.
And he reappears to bow and offer thanks.
Grateful for the audience's appreciation.

THE GREATEST SHOW [IL PIÙ GRANDE SPETTACOLO]

text Luigi Dal Cin illustrations Virginia Clericetti | hardback | cm 21 x 30 | pp 32 | 5+ years | March 2026

With her dad, that little girl passes by a bench every day where a man is sitting or lying among empty bottles and abandoned papers. The fact that her father calls him an “invisible” because no one sees him, triggers the thought in the little girl’s head that he is a great magician, who rests at the end of the show. Empty bottles are his juggling tools. The white beard depends on the smoke he can let out of his nose... Thus the imagination of that little girl gallops, dreaming for him of a theatre where everyone applauds him. The bench, empty for days, is a sign that in the greatest show ever, the invisibility number is still keeping him busy... But then, comes the grand finale, where only the drawings shed light!

**When invisibility is not just magic and spectacle, but daily marginalization.
A poignant tale for a child’s voice and the silence of the homeless.**



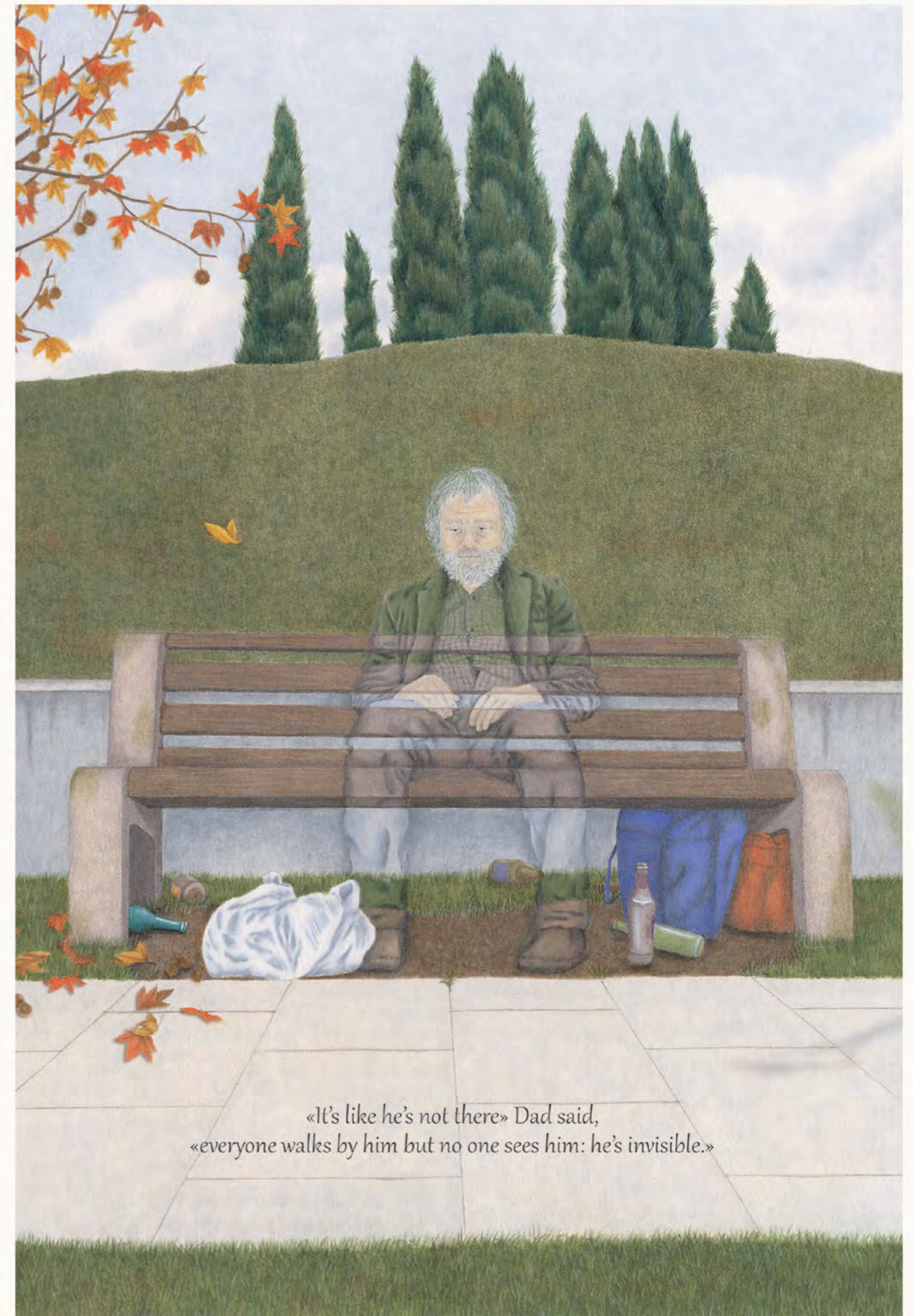
LUIGI DAL CIN unlike the character in his book, is not invisible and does not sit down to rest. Born in Ferrara in 1966, he has written over 100 children's books, translated into a dozen different languages. He has won all the most prestigious Italian awards, including the Andersen Prize in 2013. He tirelessly travels around Italy, curating shows and meetings with his countless readers and holds writing courses at the most prestigious schools, from Scuola Holden in Turin to the Master Ars In fabula in Macerata and the International Children's Illustration Exhibition in Sarmede. He is also an author and director of theater and radio programs. He has collaborated and continues to collaborate with several museums with the aim of creating informative content for visiting children. He is a member of the judging panel for literary awards, including the Cento Children's Literature Prize.



VIRGINIA CLERICETTI was born in a house full of books and one of the most precious memories linked to her childhood is the moment of the bedtime story. She describes herself as a person with her feet on the ground and head in the clouds, a contemplative soul that gets lost in the little wonders of nature. Born in 1984, after art studies she started working as a decorator, but the nostalgia for books that fascinated her as a child pushes her to approach illustration at first as a self-taught, then following courses with the artists she most admires and attends the Master's degree in editorial illustration at the School Ars in Fabula in Macerata. Virginia lives and works in Brianza, in a small house on the edge of the forest. "What are you afraid of?" is her first book.



ALSO BY VIRGINIA CLERICETTI



«It's like he's not there» Dad said,
«everyone walks by him but no one sees him: he's invisible.»

Days

Giulia Arlen Livadiotti
ILLUSTRATIONS BY
Maurizio A.C. Quarello



DAYS

[GIORNI]

text Giulia Arlen Livadiotti

illustrations Maurizio A.C. Quarello

hardback | cm 24,7 x 17,3

pp 36 | 4+ years

October 2026

RIGHTS SOLD: KOREAN

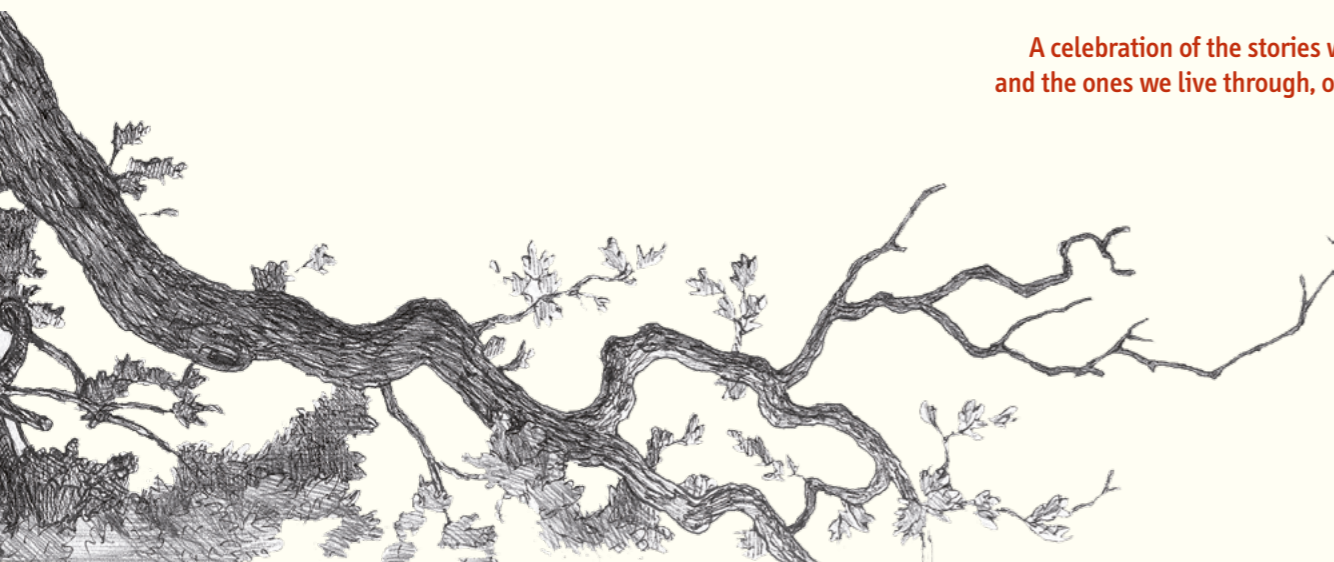


There are days...
when everything you do
or that happens to you
can turn into a fairy tale.

There are days...
when a fairy tale hides in everything you do
or that happens to you.

In just 15 sentences
and 15 breathtaking illustrations,
it weaves echoes of the world's most beloved fairy tales
– from Peter Pan to Cinderella, Pinocchio to Bluebeard –
into moments that feel deeply personal and universally relatable.

**A celebration of the stories we carry with us,
and the ones we live through, one day at a time.**

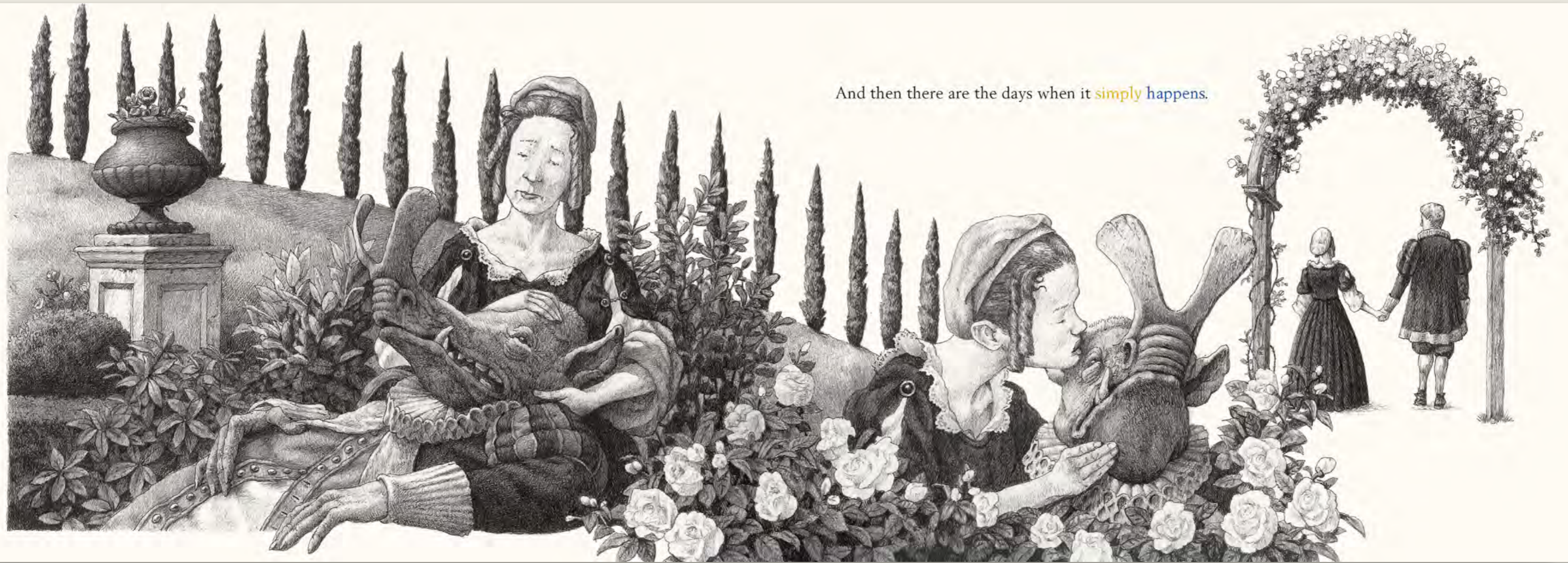


There are days that don't make sense.

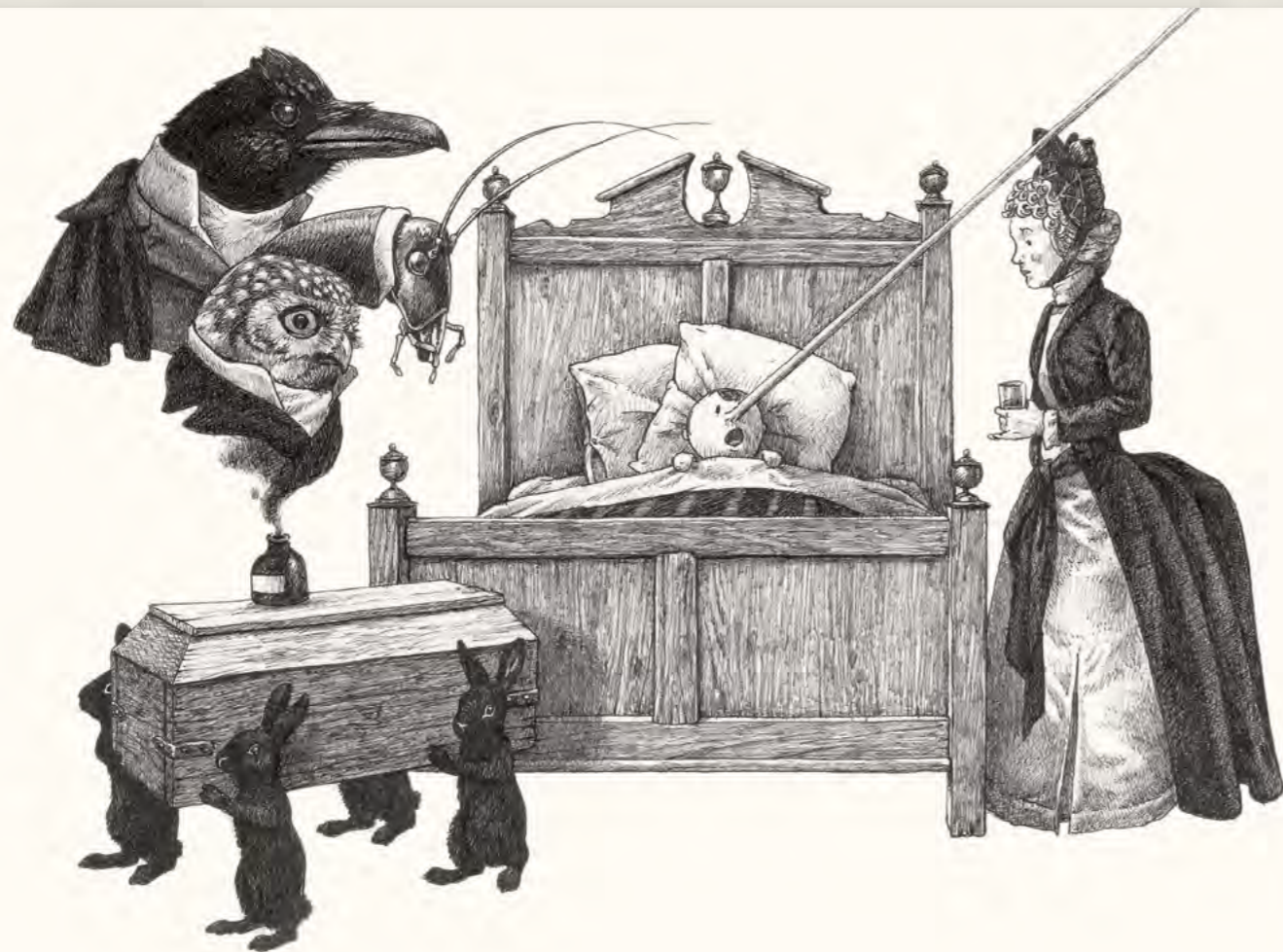


There are days that are uncomfortable for you.





And then there are the days when it simply happens.

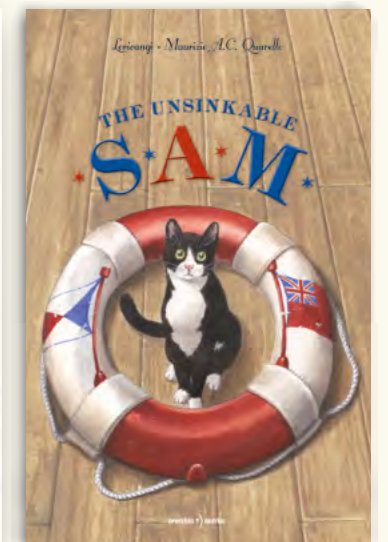


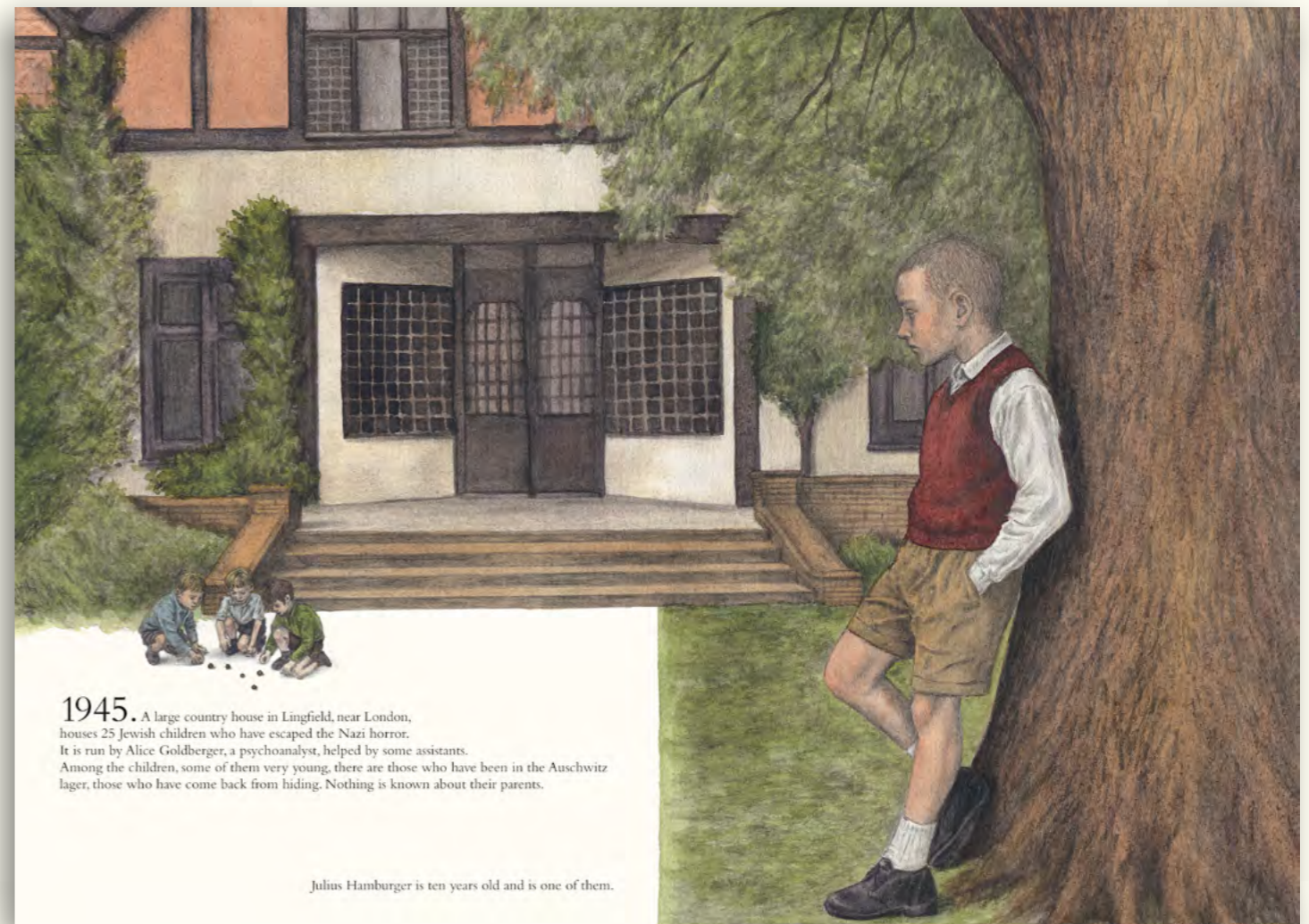
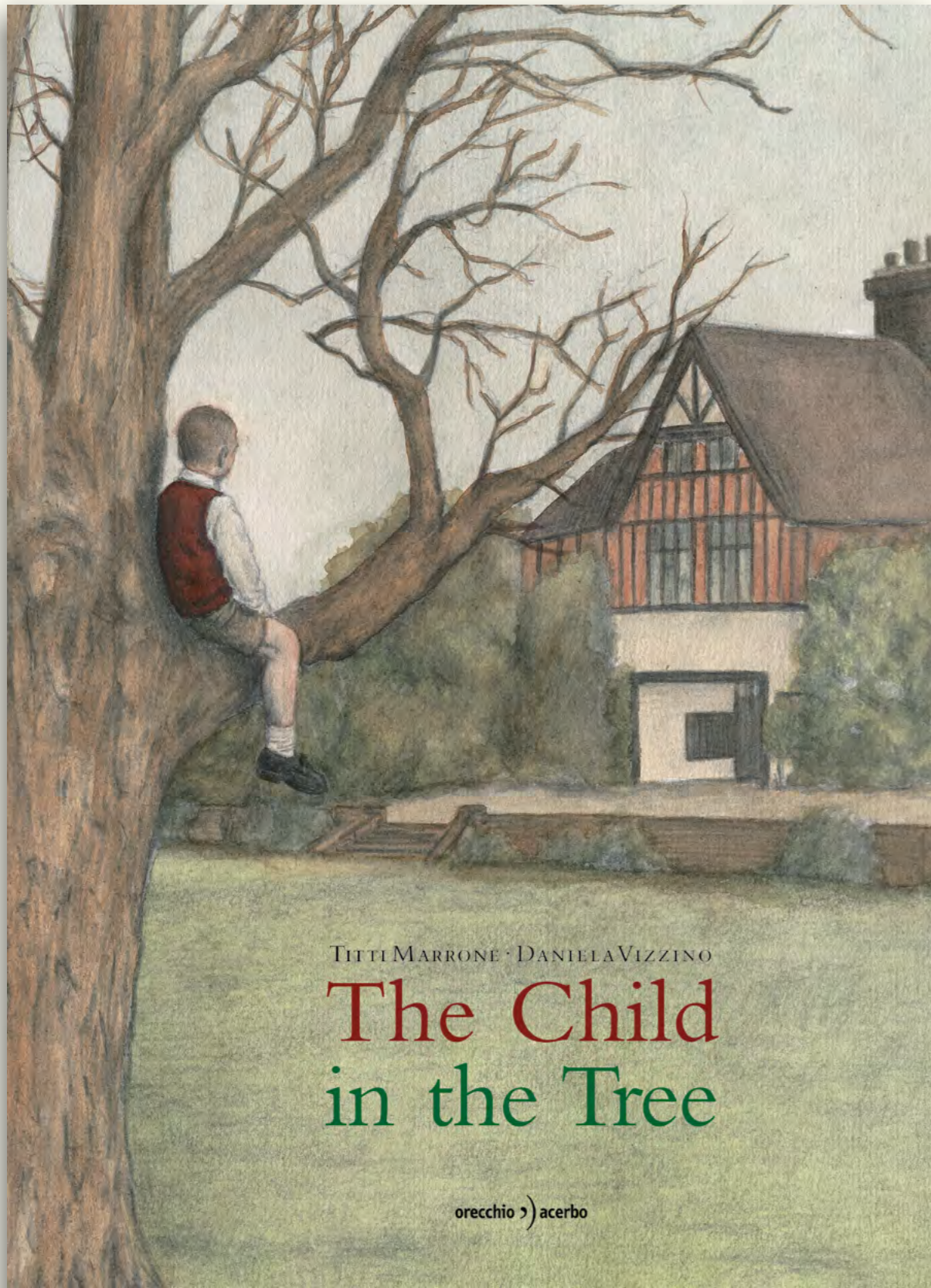
MAURIZIO A.C. QUARELLO he is a giant of illustration, capable of making each book different in style from the previous one. His books are translated all over the world and he illustrated the greatest names in world literature: from Robert Louis Stevenson, to Jack London, passing through Jorge Ibarguengoitia. He won countless awards – including the Andersen prize for best illustrator – and international recognition. Today his activity is divided between the drawing board and the professorship at the Academy of Fine Arts in Turin, where he teaches illustration, after having done so for more than ten years also at the Academy of Macerata.



GIULIA ARLEN LIVADIOTTI was born in Rome in 2002. She grew up surrounded by towers of books stacked in her home and wandering the shelves of the bookstore where her parents worked. She still lives in Rome. When she grew up, she wanted to be Santa Claus.

ALSO BY MAURIZIO A.C. QUARELLO

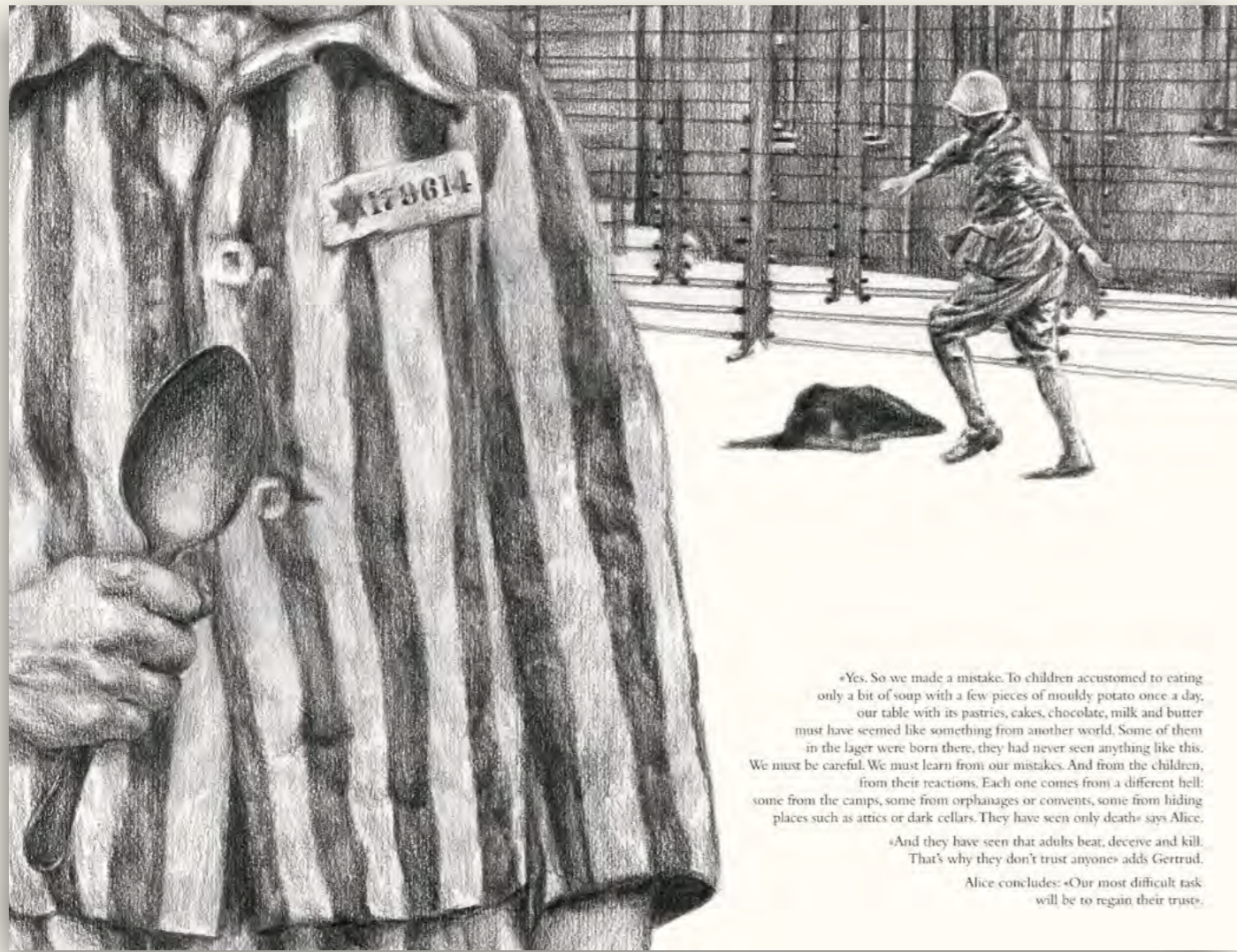




THE CHILD IN THE TREE [IL BAMBINO SULL'ALBERO]
 text Titti Marrone | illustrations Daniela Vizzino | hardback | cm 21,5 x 31 | pp 40 | 8+ year | January 2026

1945, in a cottage in London: Julius lives in a tree because he doesn't trust anyone except four little girls he protects from the times of the concentration camp. He comes down just to get the food Alice Goldberger brings him every day. He, along with the other 24 children of Lingfield House, is a child who survived the horror of concentration camps and warring cities. Alice, accompanied by Anna Freud, takes charge of their broken childhoods. With "care, love and patience you can even loosen stones". With delicacy and through a thousand cares, including growing tulips with him, Alice manages to regain Julius's trust. Once he gets down from the tree, he too manages to tell her about his terrible past to overcome it and start living again.

As moving as true, the story of the most "difficult" of the 25 children rescued from the concentration camps and healed in their inner wounds in the cottage-laboratory of Lingfield House by child psychoanalysis in its early days.



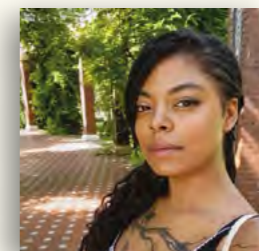
«Yes. So we made a mistake. To children accustomed to eating only a bit of soup with a few pieces of mouldy potato once a day, our table with its pastries, cakes, chocolate, milk and butter must have seemed like something from another world. Some of them in the lager were born there, they had never seen anything like this. We must be careful. We must learn from our mistakes. And from the children, from their reactions. Each one comes from a different hell: some from the camps, some from orphanages or convents, some from hiding places such as attics or dark cellars. They have seen only death» says Alice.

«And they have seen that adults beat, deceive and kill. That's why they don't trust anyone» adds Gertrud.

Alice concludes: «Our most difficult task will be to regain their trust».



Writer and journalist, **TITTI MARRONE** was born in Naples in 1952, where she graduated in History and Philosophy. She began working in journalism in 1980 and has since collaborated with leading Italian newspapers. She has taught Theories and Techniques and History of Journalism at several universities in Italy. She has written extensively about Naples, however, the book that brought her to the public's attention is "Meglio non sapere" (Laterza, 2003), a sort of investigative story about the Holocaust, which has been reprinted several times. "Se solo il mio cuore fosse pietra" (Feltrinelli, 2022), which inspired the story "Il bambino sull'albero," has received numerous awards, including the Naples Prize in 2023. Her latest novel is "Primammore" (Feltrinelli, 2025). "The Child in the Tree" is her first illustrated book.



Born the 1st day of 2001 in Cameroon, **DANIELA VIZZINO** picked up a pencil at a very young age and hasn't put it down since. Growing up, she attended art school and graduated in Illustration and Comics from the Academy of Fine Arts in Macerata, before continuing her education with a Master's degree Ars in Fabula. With her realistic style, she always strives to capture the soul of her characters, allowing them to speak, inspiring emotion, and telling their stories even in silence. Always passionate about Renaissance sketches, she has chosen to combine that visual appeal with her desire to narrate. When she works on characters, they become part of her daily life: they tell her their story and reveal their innermost being, which she translates and makes visible through the graphite of her pencil. "Il bambino sull'albero," with text by Titti Marrone, is her first illustrated book.



The Song of Tomorrow

Sonia Maria Luce Possentini

orecchio acerbo >

THE SONG OF TOMORROW [LA CANZONE DEL DOMANI]
text and illustrations Sonia Maria Luce Possentini

hardback | cm 28 x 24
pp 48 | 6+ years
February 2026



Spring of 1944, the hardest year of the war. Oriele, the author's grandmother, is twenty years old and is leaving again to go and have the rice weeders' season. Difficult life drives her: her husband at war, a son to cheer up.

She and her lifelong friend, Mercede, set off, for a fistful of rice and little money.

These will be days of extremely hard work because the work is exhausting and the master an exploiter. But, when Mercede falls ill, Oriele realizes that she must do something truly strong for the situation to change and for the rice weeders to be granted honest pay and a dignified life.

So that morning, albeit bent over, all the women in the rice field followed her in her protest song and from there the echo of their voices spread everywhere: one thousand and two hundred, united against exploitation to see their freedom recognized.

The true story of a lifelong friendship, that between young Oriele and her best friend Mercede.

They have been going into the world every spring since they were fourteen.

Between the lines of this little story, the great history of the struggle of thousand women who demanding the reduction from 8 to 7 working hours, rice, bicycle tires, and clothes. And, above all, equal rights.

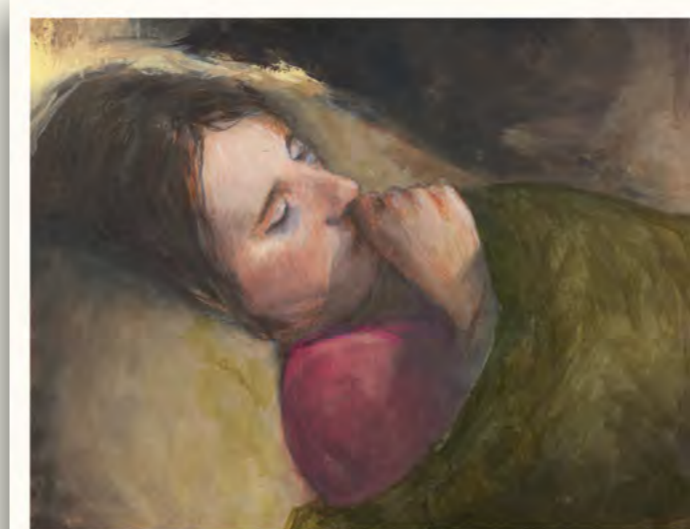


Oriele knows:

a sack of rice and little money.
She was fourteen when she started.
The year before, she had failed fifth grade,
just so she could stay in school a little longer.



It is the spring of 1944, the hardest year of the war.



Oriele looks at Mercede and thinks:
she won't be able to work, she won't have any rice or money. She'll be sent home, like an empty sack.



She looks at her and thinks:
of girls' games, dances, loves and secrets, of shared homesickness, songs, bread and rice.



ALSO BY THE SAME AUTHOR

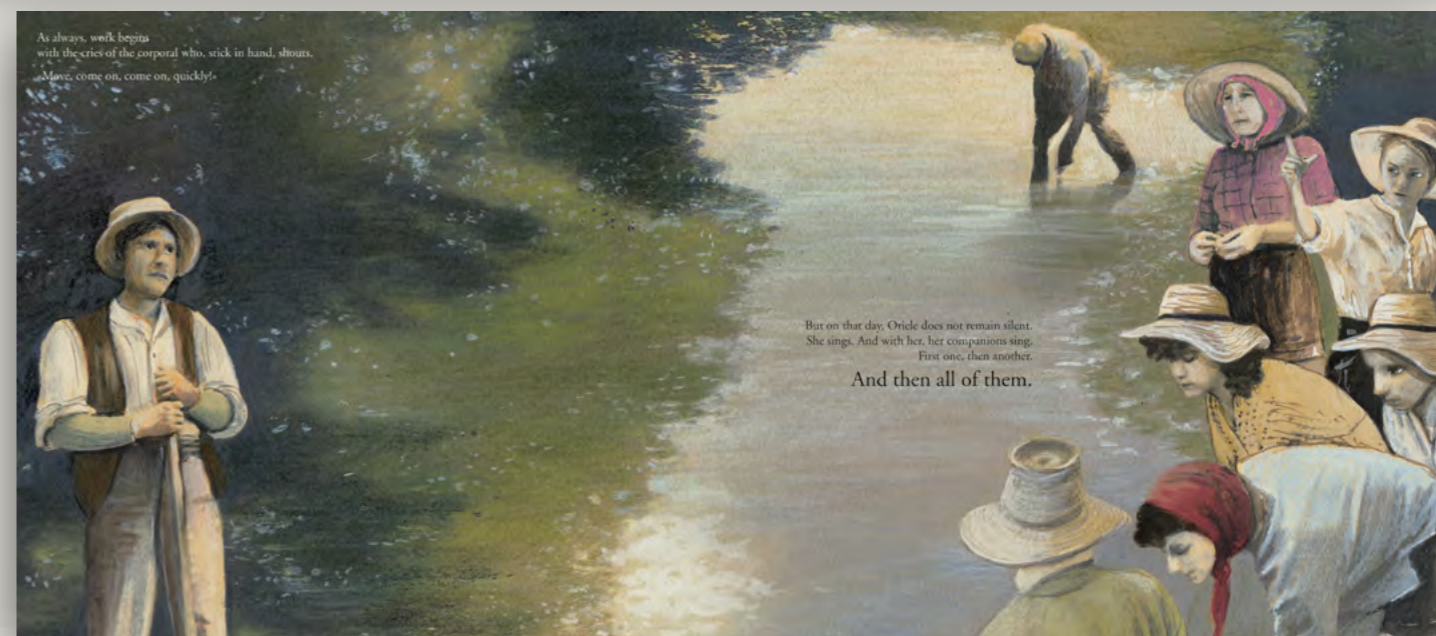


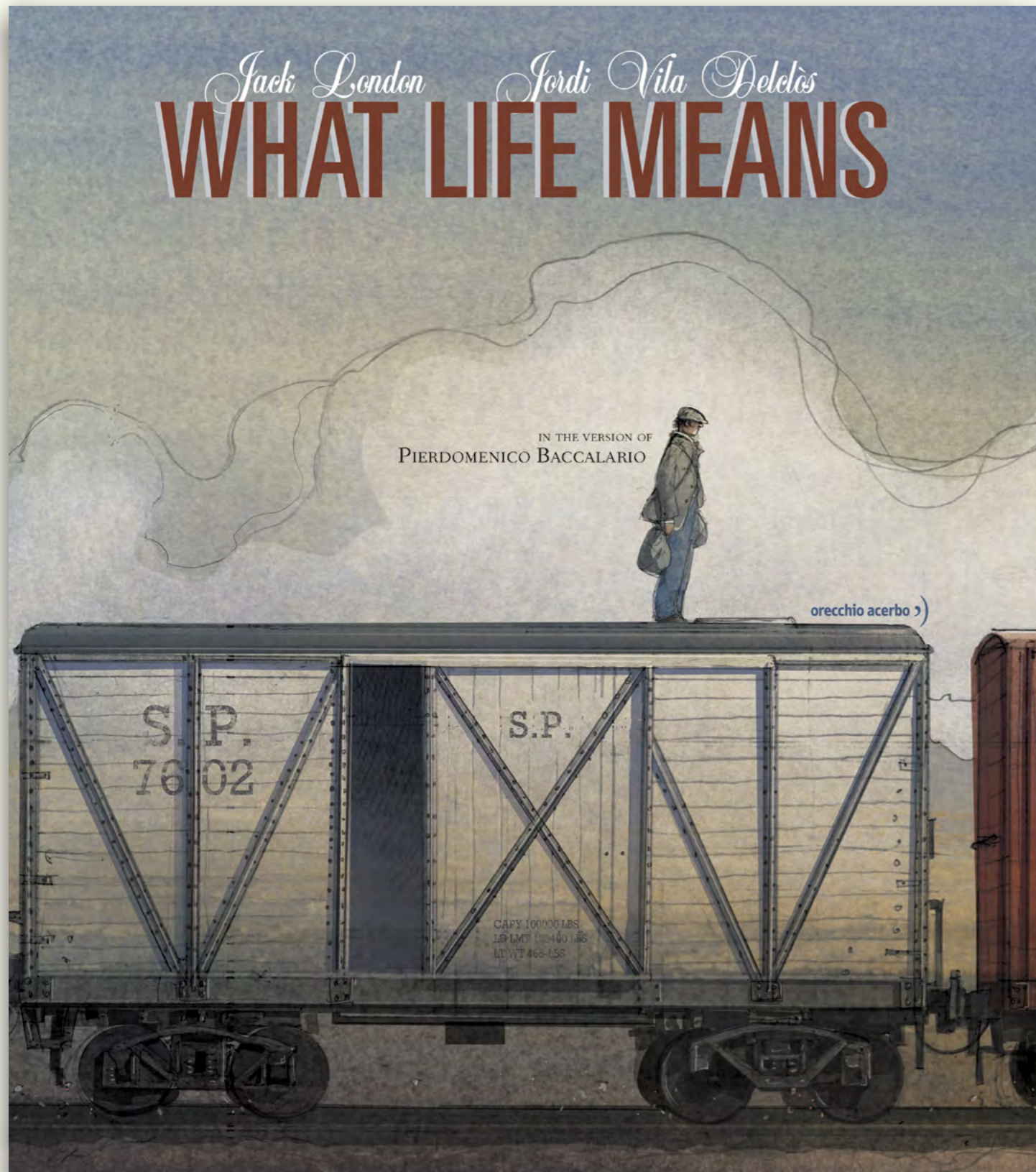
PUBLISHED ALSO IN BOSNIAN

RIGHTS SOLD: SPANISH, CATALAN, BASQUE, PORTUGUESE, KOREAN



Born in 1977, in Cesena but always-lived Rimini, **SONIA MARIA LUCE POSSENTINI** graduated in Art History at the Dams in Bologna, she attended the Academy of Fine Arts in the same city and was a student of Stepan Zavrel and Kveta Pakovská. A visual artist, over time he has developed a position of pre-eminence in the field of illustration for publishing, publishing with the most refined and prestigious Italian publishing houses, and winning important awards, both international and national, including, in 2017, the Italian Andersen as best illustrator of the year.





WHAT LIFE MEANS
[IL SENSO DELLA VITA]

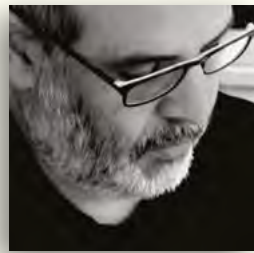
text Jack London
in the version of
Pierdomenico Baccalario
illustrations
Jordi Vila Delclòs
hardback
cm 23,5 x 26,5
pp 56 | 8+ years
August 2026

Jack London looks back at his past: a childhood spent among laborers and farmers, a hard life. He realizes that up there lies the “palace” of those who possess everything, and his drive to reach the top and sit at the table of the rich. He sells newspapers on the street, pilfers along the river, works in a factory, ends up in prison, studies, discovers politics, travels the world, and finally comes to a conclusion: the exploited will always be exploited, and capitalists will always be capitalists, and even intellectual labor is a commodity. And he realizes that the real people are not the rich, but the workers: he sides with them to “blow up the palace” and begins to write. And in this, no one beats him.

In Pierdomenico Baccalario's version, Jack London's lucid and articulate reflection, a sort of autobiography set against the backdrop of early twentieth-century American society, is a bitter yet hopeful ode to redemption that still demonstrates its great relevance and universal appeal.



PIERDOMENICO BACCALARIO began writing in high school: during particularly boring hours, he pretended to take notes, but in reality he was making up stories. Born in 1974 in Acqui Terme to a family that always encouraged his passion for writing, he graduated in law and for a time combined his legal practice with work as a children's writer and freelance journalist. At just 24, he won his first literary prize with "La strada del guerriero" (The Warrior's Road), and in 2012 he won the Bancarellino with "Lo spacciatore di fumetti" (Einaudi). His novels have been translated into at least twenty languages. For years, he has contributed to the culture pages of newspapers such as "La Repubblica" and "Corriere della Sera." He is part of Gli Immergenti, a group of Italian authors and writers who often work in teams, copywriters in the world of children (and adults). In 2015, he launched the Grand Tour project, a series of books for children aged 9 and up, distributed exclusively in independent bookstores. In 2014, he founded the London-based literary agency Book On a Tree and settled with his family in the United Kingdom. He has been a member of the scientific committee of Lucca Comics & Games for over twenty years, where he follows the publishing and international panorama of fantasy literature.



JORDI VILA DELCLÒS has studied two things very well: music and drawing, and in both he has demonstrated enormous talent. His absolute favorite thing in life is listening to jazz and drawing pirates. He trained at the Llotja L'Escola Superior de Disseny i Art in Barcelona, where he was born in 1966. Throughout his career as an illustrator, marked by numerous awards, he has demonstrated a mature style capable of creating images for stories and novels by classic authors: from "One Thousand and One Nights" to "Gulliver's Adventures," by way of Cervantes, Dumas, Twain, Andersen, the Brothers Grimm, and, of course, Stevenson and his Pirates. He has designed the covers for numerous fiction books, both for adults and children. This is his first illustrated book published in Italy.

ALSO BY THE SAME AUTHOR



Daniel Fehr · Mariagiulia Colace

Last!



LAST!
[ULTIMO!]
text Daniel Fehr
illustrations
Mariagiulia Colace
hardback | cm 21 x 29,7
pp 32 | 4+ years
August 2026

RIGHTS SOLD:
KOREAN AND BASQUE

In every race there is a leader. Then there are the racers who follow him. And the, behind the field, at the very end... there is the last one: after all, in every race, there must always be someone who has to be last and lose the race. But he still made it, his way. You don't have to come first to have something to celebrate!

In the age of performance anxiety, the time of being the best, the age of success at all costs, of unbridled competition, the great story of a young cyclist who doesn't give up until the finish line, and it doesn't matter if his path is different: what matters is pedaling towards... his own happiness.

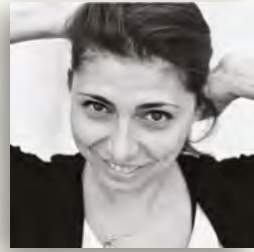


Maurizio does not want to be last.
Maurizio attacks.
He holds his head down and pedals. As hard as he can.
When you have your head down, you don't see bums.
That is a relief for Maurizio. But it is also a problem.
Maurizio does not see anything. No bums but also no bend.
Maurizio pedals straight out into the cliff.



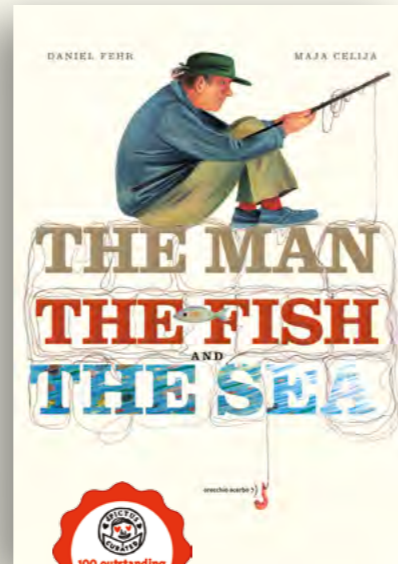


That **DANIEL FEHR** is someone who likes to entertain people, we suspected from the beginning. Although he studied serious subjects such as Germanistics at Princeton and visual arts in New York and even earlier in Switzerland, where he was born in 1980, all his books are always 'inhabited' by a game. Playing is certainly the area in which his vein is most fertile: in addition to books, he has designed various board games for children and adults. Always unexpected, Daniel Fehr's point of view disorients readers, using the book not only as a container for a story to be told, but also and above all as a 'living' object full of traps and pitfalls. In his latest books, his taste for play has given way to imagination and nonsense. For Orecchio acerbo he published "Come si legge un libro?" (2018) and "Come si esce da questo libro e, soprattutto, quando?" (2019) both illustrated by Maurizio Quarello, "Aspettando Walt" (2020) and "L'uomo, il pesce e il mare" (2025) illustrated by Maja Celija, "Oggi" (2021) illustrated by Simone Rea and "Alba" (2021) illustrated by Elena Rotondo.



MARIAGIULIA COLACE was born in Rome in 1987. After classical studies, she graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome with a degree in set design. She then began a master's degree in History of Directing at the IUAV University of Venice, completing her studies at Roma Tre University, graduating with a thesis on Maurizio Buscarino, a theater photographer. Her experience with Eugenio Barba's Odin Teatret, the Ecole Lassaad in Brussels, and Emma Dante's Scuola del Teatro Biondo also shaped her acting and performance skills. She writes plays for the theatre and, in parallel, continues her work as an illustrator, writing and drawing stories. Her work is published by Fabbri Editore, Feltrinelli, Barometz Edizioni, and Ideestorte.

ALSO BY THE SAME AUTHOR

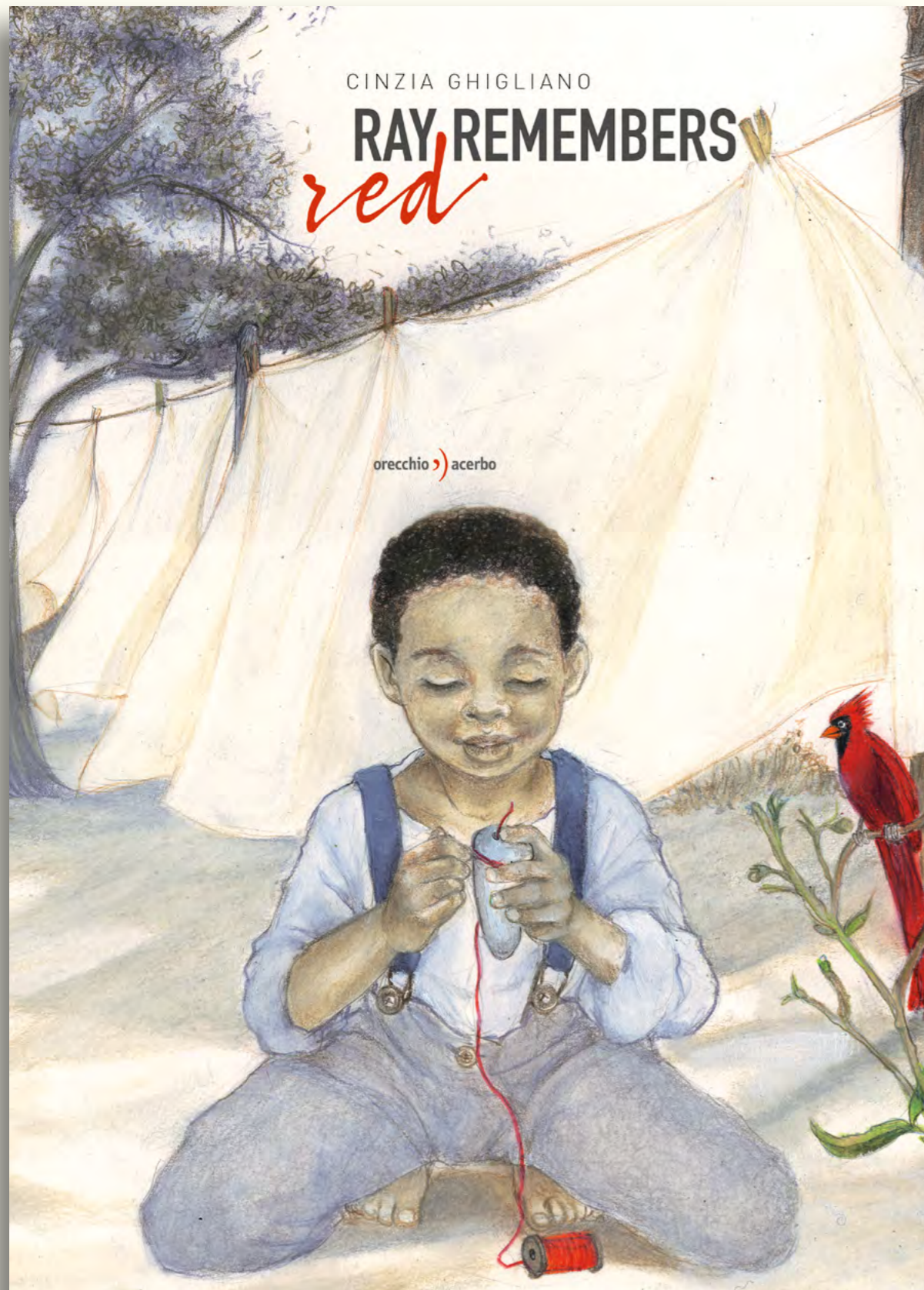


RIGHTS SOLD: SPANISH, GERMAN, FRENCH, TURKISH, KOREAN, GREEK, SIMPLIFIED CHINESE



He pedals to the sound of those
who have made it.





RAY REMEMBERS RED [RAY RICORDA IL ROSSO]

text and illustrations Cinzia Ghigliano | hardback | cm 20,7 x 29,1 | pp 32 | 6+ years | 2027

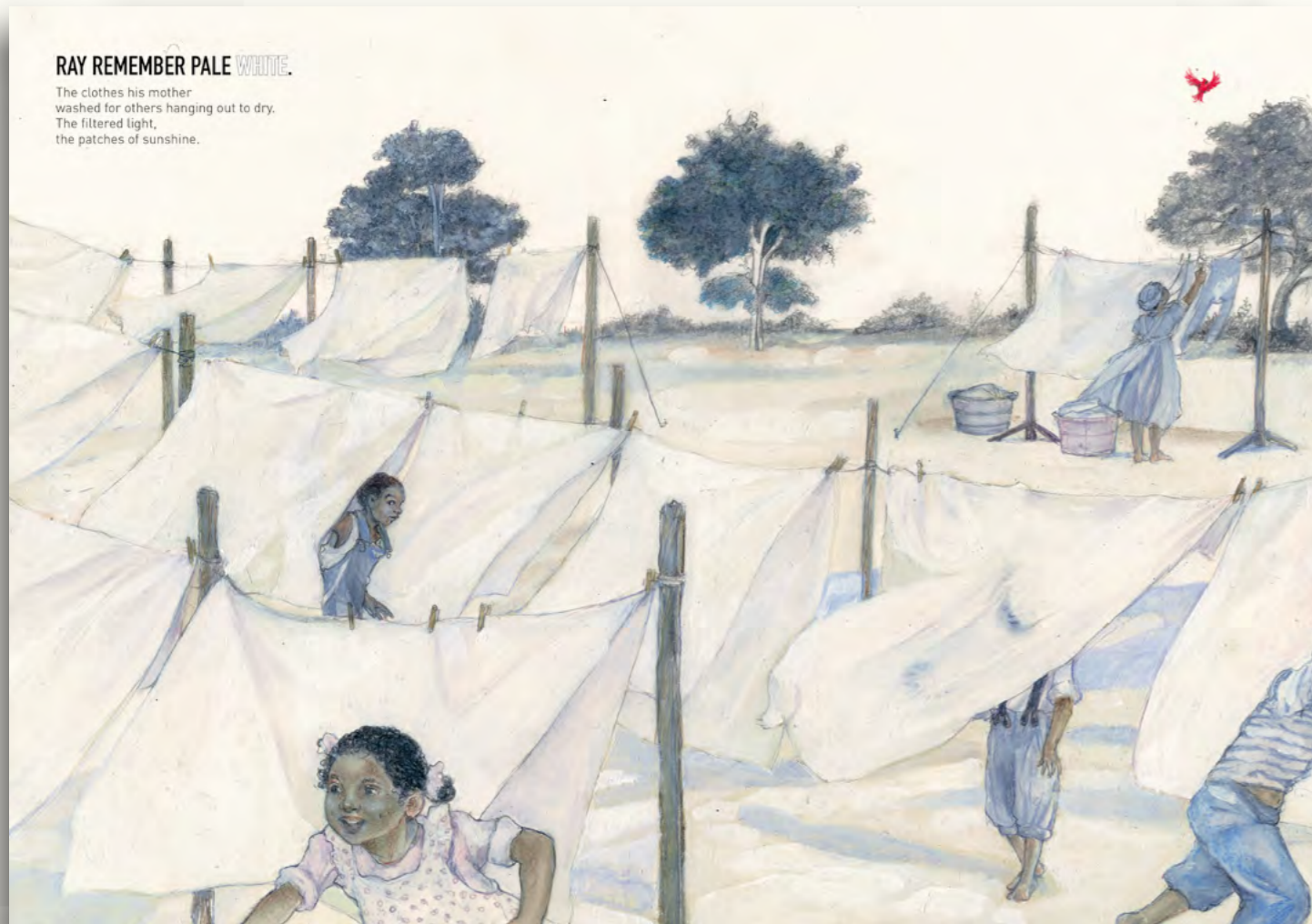
Ray is a boy born in South Carolina, who grows up in Greenville, Florida. He becomes blind at the age of seven, but he remembers all the colors of his homeland and his childhood. The red of the sun, hot and bright, the green of the trees and bushes, pleasant and fresh, the brown and blue of Mr. Pith's Plymouth, who let him sit in the front seat, and also plays the piano for him. Ray remembers the sounds and those black and white keys. Black and white, colors so united in music and yet so separate in the United States of those years. With his music, however, Ray will make both blacks and whites smile.

The story of the childhood of Ray Charles Robinson, known to the world as Ray Charles, – pianist, jazz, blues, and country singer, among the fathers of soul music. He was one of the most significant figures in black music, a genius, a legend.



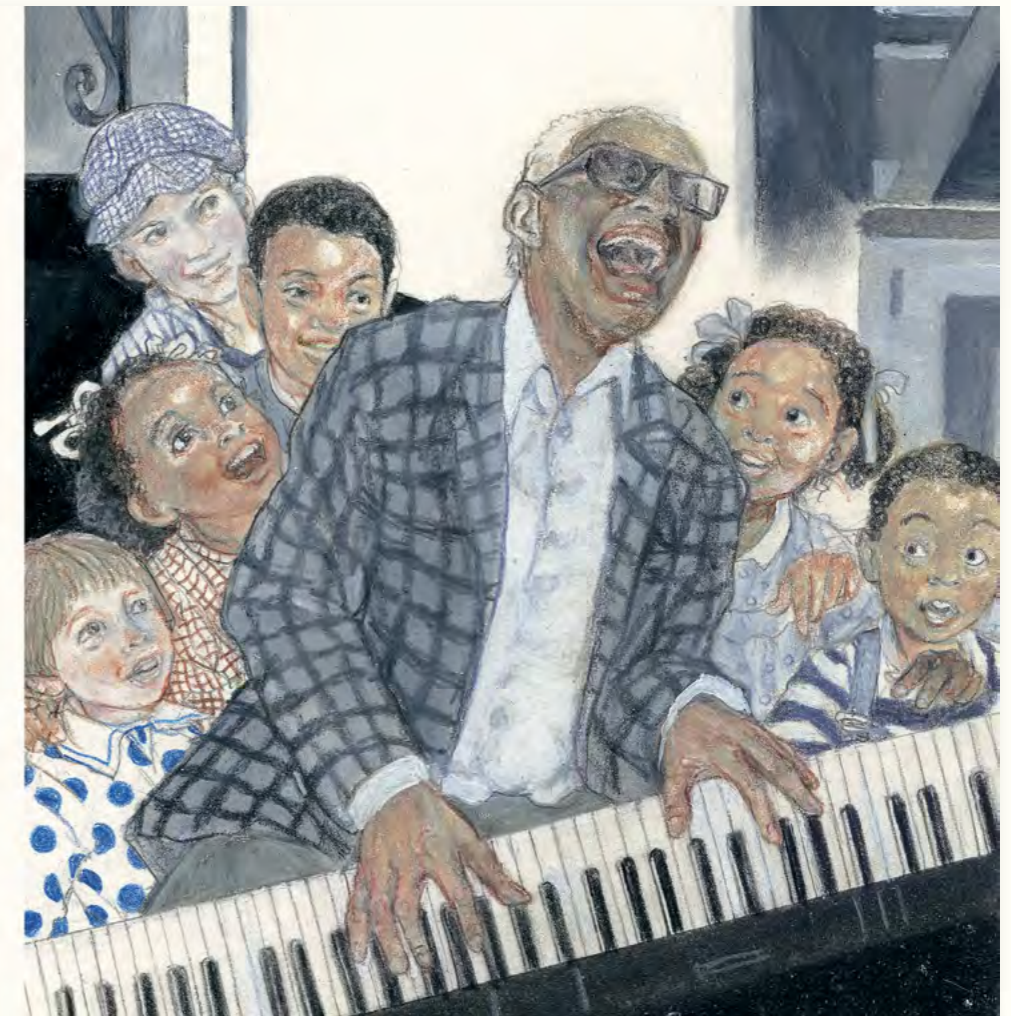
RAY REMEMBER PALE WHITE.

The clothes his mother washed for others hanging out to dry. The filtered light, the patches of sunshine.



It wasn't easy, **BUT RAY CONTINUES TO SMILE** as he makes his music.

Even though he has been blind since he was seven years old.



With his hands and feet, Ray learns to keep time, to recognise the notes. Ray remembers the number of steps to John's shop where there is a jukebox playing.

RAY HEARS IT.



CINZIA GHIGLIANO (1952) started her career as a cartoonist in 1976, on the magazine Linus. Two years later, she was awarded with the prestigious Yellow Kid as the Italian Cartoonist of the Year. Cinzia Ghigliano's

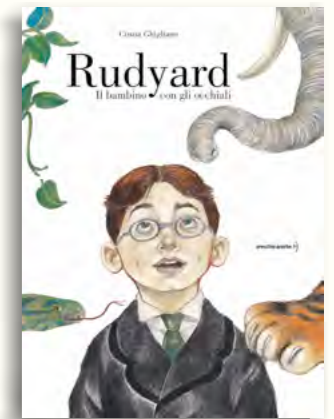
paintings and figures are nowadays found in many private and public collections, such as the Belgian Comic Strip Center in Bruxelles, the Angouleme Museum in France, and the Lisbon Museum in Portugal.

Her work as a children's illustrator has become more intense in the last years; she has collaborated with Italian most important publishing houses, and received many prestigious awards. In 2003 she was awarded with the Caran d'Ache for the Year's Best Illustrator. She teaches illustration and comics classes at the Libera Accademia d'arte Novalia (Alba) and at the European Institute of Design in Turin.

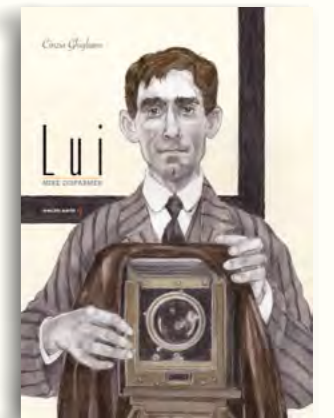
ALSO BY THE SAME AUTHOR



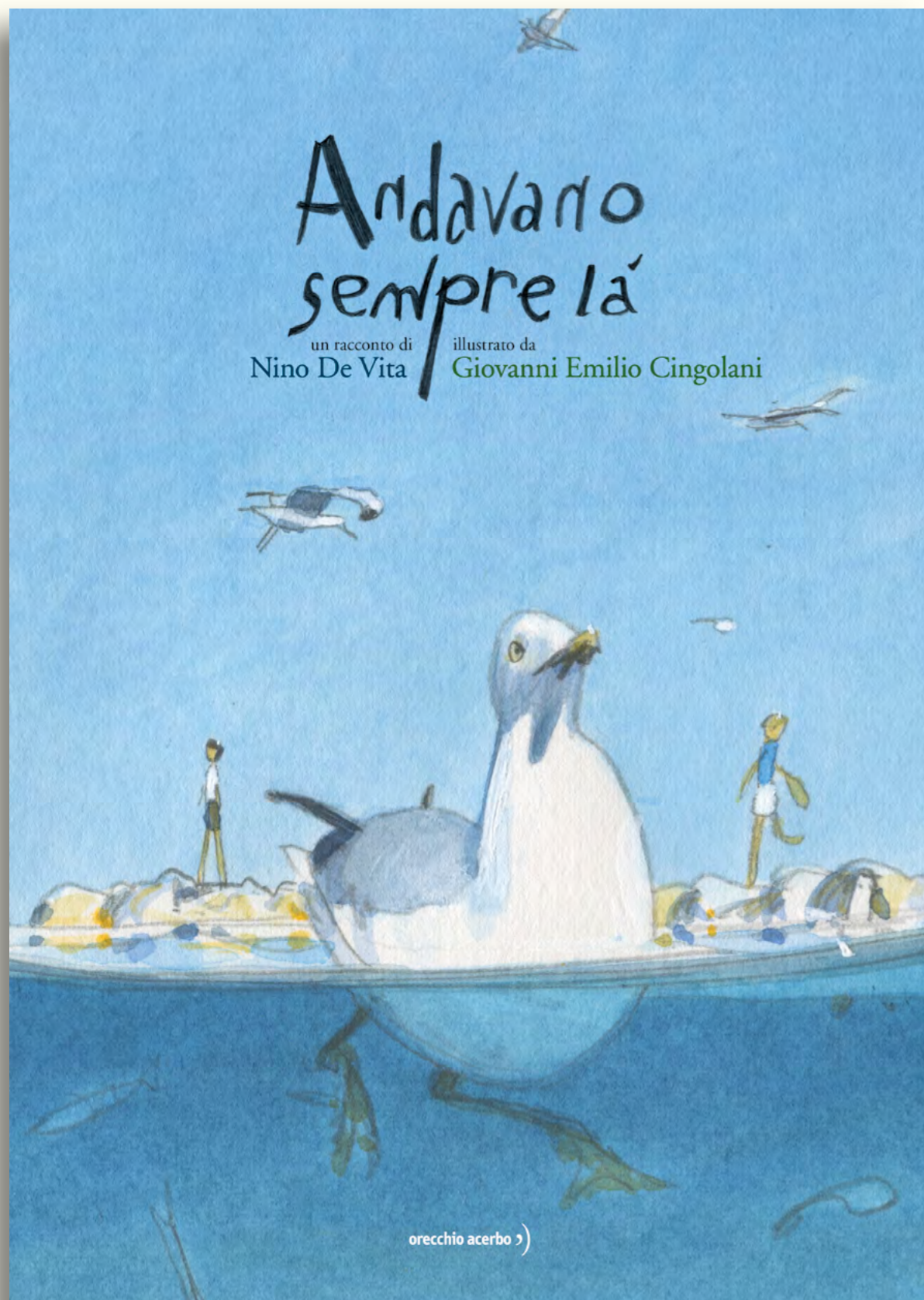
RIGHTS SOLD: KOREAN, COMPLEX CHINESE, RUSSIAN



RIGHTS SOLD: KOREAN



RIGHTS SOLD: RUSSIAN

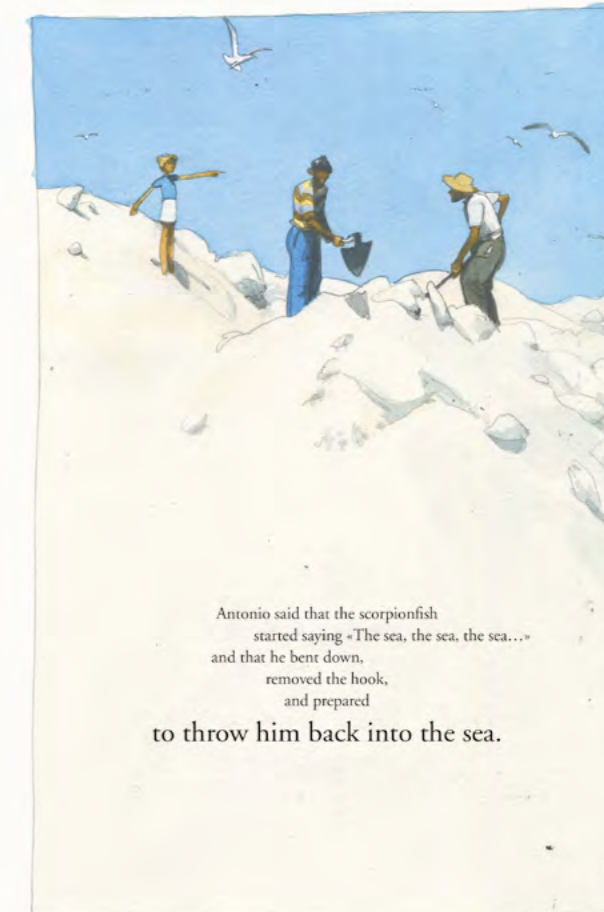


THEY ALWAYS WENT THERE [ANDAVANO SEMPRE LÀ]

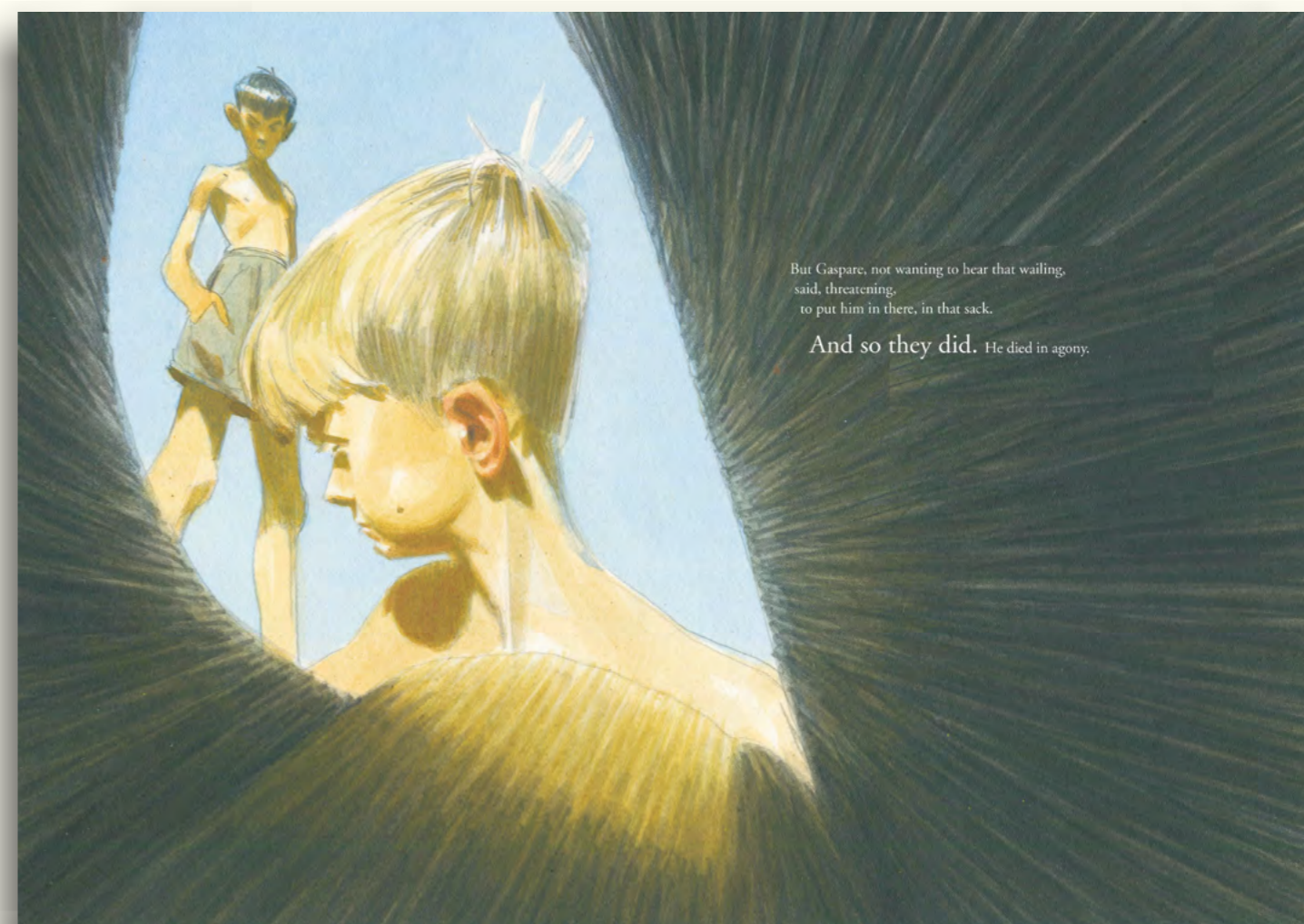
text Nino De Vita illustrations Giovanni Emilio Cingolani | hardback | cm 21 x 29,7 | pp 36 | 6+ years | July 2026

It's summer and at the beach that youngsters run, start chasing each other, argue and then make peace again. Antonio and Gaspare pulled the fishing line today at Stagnone, without much hope. But instead that voracious scorpionfish bites. Those two are almost afraid of life floundering before their eyes. Seeing him writhing breathlessly awakens them from the innocence of a minute earlier. What to do with the dying fish must be decided in short. Lock him in a sack and wait for his breath to stop, or free his mouth from the hook and put him back in the water so he can still swim on the seabed? The versions of the facts that follow are not in agreement. Does one decide for the other, or does the odd-even winner have the fate of the fish in his hands?

A story that is a poem, a story in which every child recognizes a little' of himself.



Antonio said that the scorpionfish
started saying «The sea, the sea, the sea...»
and that he bent down,
removed the hook,
and prepared
to throw him back into the sea.

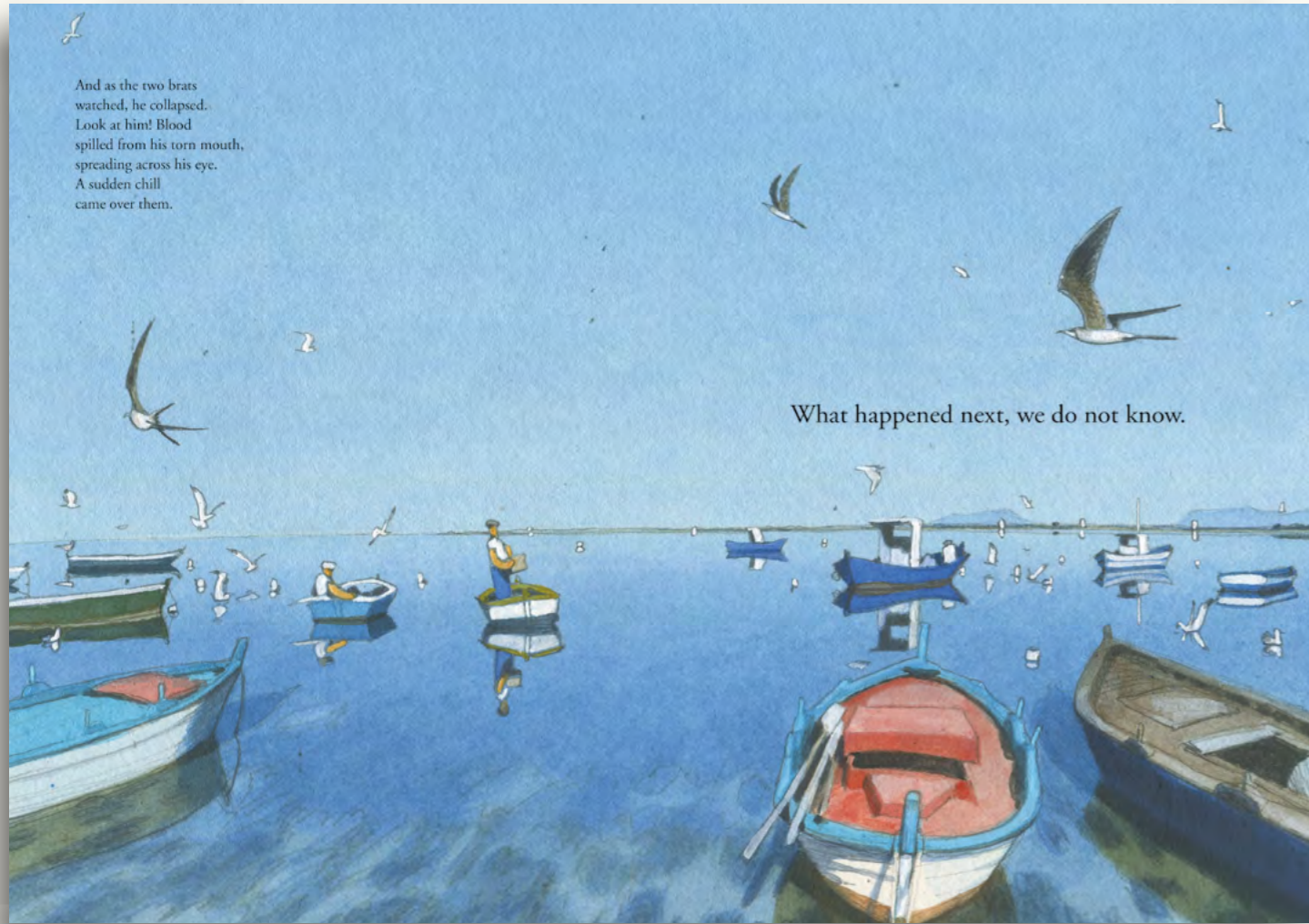


But Gaspare, not wanting to hear that wailing,
said, threatening,
to put him in there, in that sack.

And so they did. He died in agony.

And as the two brats
watched, he collapsed.
Look at him! Blood
spilled from his torn mouth,
spreading across his eye.
A sudden chill
came over them.

What happened next, we do not know.



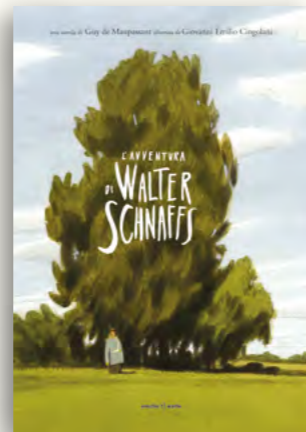
NINO DE VITA was born in Marsala in 1950, where he lives and works. He is the author of "Fosse Chiti"

(Milan, 1984) and the trilogy published by Mesogea consisting of "Cutusiu" (2001), "Cùntura" (2003), and "Nnòmura" (2005). He is also the author of several collections of verse published in limited editions. Recognized as one of the most interesting and rigorous voices in contemporary poetry, in 1996 he won the Alberto Moravia Prize for Italian Literature, in 2002 the Mondello "Ignazio Buttitta" Prize, in 2004 the Napoli Prize, and in 2009 the Tarquinia Cardarelli Prize for poetry. Among his latest titles are "We Will Remember. Twenty Years of Friendship with Leonardo Sciascia" (Le lettere, 2025). In orecchio acerbo's catalogue there are "C'erano tutti nella grande aia" illustrated by Armin Greder (2018), "La casa sull'altura" illustrated by Simone Massi (2011), "I racconti del lombrico" illustrated by Francesca Ghermandi (2007) and "Il cacciatore" illustrated by Michele Ferri (2006).



GIOVANNI EMILIO CINGOLANI was born in 1992 in a small village in the Marche region, near the city of Macerata, where he still lives and works today. For as long as he can remember, he has always drawn. He loves the masters of comics and good literature. The colors and gentleness of the Marche hills are often in his heart and eyes. In 2020, he graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Macerata with top honors. His first illustrated book, "L'avventura di Walter Schnaffs", a short story by Guy De Maupassant, was published by orecchio acerbo in 2021. Orecchio acerbo's catalogue also includes "Andavano sempre là" based on a story in verse by Nino De Vita (2026) and "La bocca dell'Adda", based on a text by Franca Cavagnoli (2022) which earned a mention at the 2022 Gianni Rodari prize and entered the Ibbv Italia 2023 Honour List.

ALSO BY GIOVANNI EMILIO CINGOLANI



The revelry

of the youngsters, in summer, at Stagnone:
they joked around, played
pranks on each other, chased one another, and threw
posidonia, moss and water lilies,
at each other.

The arguments that flared up
between them, the rifts.
Then close friends once again.
And quarrels again, and anger
that smouldered.

FABIAN NEGRIN
MARIACHIARA DI GIORGIO

A DOG, ME TOO



A DOG, ME TOO! [UN CANE ANCH'IO]

text Fabian Negrin | illustrations Mariachiara Di Giorgio | hardback | cm 21 x 30 | pp 36 | 4+ years | April 2026

It all starts with two parents to defeat in their plan not to get a dog, even though the two children want nothing else. With the grown-ups, you have to make do: the older sister transforms, with the right changes to the look, her brother into a dog. And he's in! They thus launch a trend that spreads in a flash among children: new young owners with leashes in their hands and new dogs following them docilely. But between being a dog and being a master it's much nicer to be a dog, so – after nights spent howling on balconies – the children, all on all fours, at sunrise, hearing an inner call come out of their beds, from their homes and conquer the park then the wood then the forest and finally... freedom!?

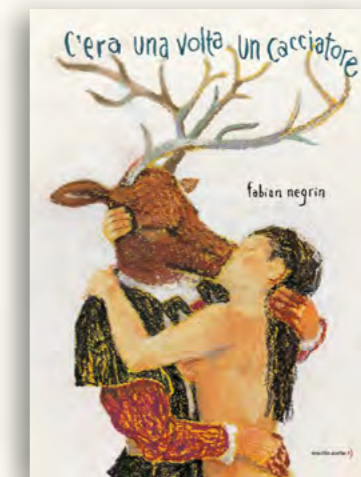
The boys and girls of Fabian Negrin, – full of imagination, free, always very determined to resist the world of adults and here even quite a few' wild – take the shape and color of the boys, girls and dogs of Mariachiara Di Giorgio. Four-legged children!



FABIAN NEGRIN
 was born
 in Argentina,
 in 1963.
 When he was
 eighteen
 he moved to Mexico
 City, where

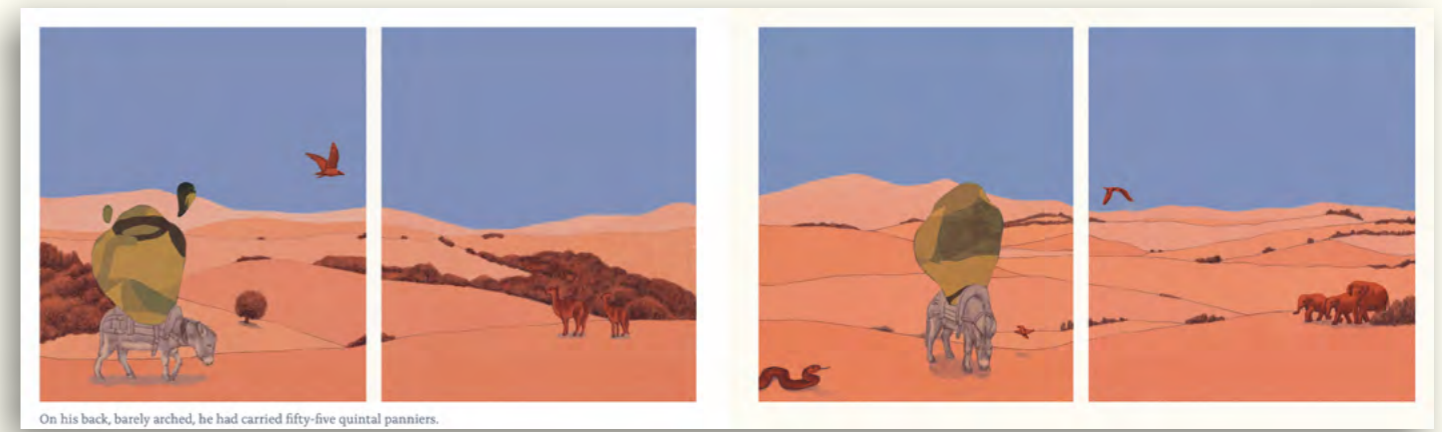
he graduated from the Metropolitan Autonomous University. Negrin moved to Milan in 1989, his illustrations appeared in numerous newspapers and magazines. In 2009, with the books "Mille giorni e una notte" and "L'amore t'attende", he obtained the Bib Plaque at the Bratislava Illustration Biennial; in 2010 he won the Bologna Ragazzi Award Non-Fiction; in 2011 he received the prestigious CJ Picture Books in Korea. Since 2001, after "Il gigante Gambipiombo" his first title by Orecchio acerbo, he has published many books of which he is also the author of the text. He illustrated almost all the volumes of the "Fiabe e storie" series by the publisher Donzelli. He has also published with many other Italian publishers, and his latest titles are: "Con le mani" (Giunti 2023), "Mitomalia" (Giunti 2022) "L'indovinello della tigre" (Edizioni Corsare 2022). In Orecchio acerbo's catalogue he curated the "Pulci nell'orecchio" series, inaugurated in 2017 and which to date has thirteen titles, and is author and illustrator of many other books.

ALSO BY FABIAN NEGRIN



MARIACHIARA DI GIORGIO was born in Rome in 1983, where she began her illustration studies at the IED, she continued her studies in Paris at ENSAD. Her journey in children's publishing began in 2012 and has continued uninterrupted. To date, she has published with major Italian and international publishing houses. Her illustrations have been exhibited

at the Bologna Children's Book Fair and at the Society of Illustrators in New York. Her work has been included on the Ibbey Honor List and the White Ravens. In 2018 she received the Prix Sorcière, the Luigi Malerba Award and the Andersen Award for Best Silent Book with "Professione Coccodrillo" (Topipittori), while in 2022 she received the Andersen Award for Best Italian Illustrator and the Shadows' Choice Kate Greenaway Medal in the United Kingdom.

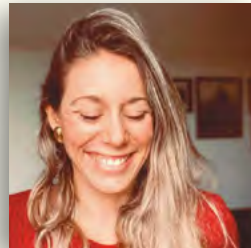


THE DONKEY FOFO [L'ASINO FOFO]

text Giulia Maria Falzea | illustrations Claudia Palmarucci | hardback | cm 22,7 x 26,2 | pp 32 | 4+ years | April 2026

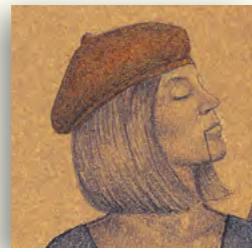
The donkey Fofu is old. Now he's delicate and a little fragile like a biscuit, but for all one hundred and three years he carried a very heavy pannier, full of questions about the world, he brought many children, but that doesn't mean there was little street in his clogs: he has been to every corner of the world. But now he is tired and has retired in a forest with a mirror in front of him. And as he dreams of having a pair of wings, he thinks that maybe the meaning of all those questions can fly away, without too many thoughts. Now he just wants to laugh at everything he's learned, the days gone by, the pains he went through. Now the time has come to laugh, to finally feel light, to be able to go away, but not to disappear, on the contrary to be reborn! And the children are watching!

The tale of a donkey who throughout his life carried the weight of the world upon him. With all those questions, with all those children to rock it had been a great struggle. But now, as an old man, he wanted to be light. And laugh, laugh, finally, him too! Dedicated to all generous and wise old men: to the Fofi donkeys.



GIULIA MARIA FALZEA was born in Galatina in 1985, as a young girl Giulia Maria Falzea was captivated by a production of La Traviata

and can still recite the entire text by heart. As an adult, she graduated from the University of Bologna with a degree in Literature, specializing in the aesthetics of art. She continued her studies in investigative journalism and also completed a master's degree in development economics. She lived for some time in London, where she collaborated with the Sunday Times Magazine. Upon returning to Italy, she worked at the Bari office of La Repubblica and for a year in the communications office of Save the Children. She returned to her native Salento permanently when she began collaborating with the Koreja Theatre in Lecce. She subsequently curated the productions of several shows, including one in collaboration with Giancarlo De Cataldo: "Gul. Uno sparo nel buio." She collaborates with the editorial staff of Awand and writes short stories: with Claudia Gori, she is the author of "Anatomia dei Sentimenti," while her other works appear in "Secret Garden" (Danilo Montanari Editore), "Musa e Getta" (Ponte alle Grazie), and other specialized magazines. Her first novel, "Cannibali," was published in 2023. "L'asino Fofò" is her first illustrated book and was written with Goffredo Fofi in mind: a surprise he unfortunately never had.



CLAUDIA PALMARUCCI was born in Tolentino in 1985. She studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Macerata and she constantly looks to the great masters of painting, from Watteau to Rubens, and devotes her energy and thoughts to illustration. In 2008, she attended the summer course held in Macerata by Vitali Konstantinov, and the following year she experienced the guidance of Maurizio Quarello. Orecchio acerbo's catalogue also includes: "La Rosa" by Ljudmila Petruševskaja (2011) – her debut album, with which she was selected for the prestigious Illustrarte and CJ Picture Book awards–, "Le case degli altri bambini" by Luca Tortolini (2015) – Special Mention for First Work at the Bologna Ragazzi Award 2016–, "Marie Curie nel paese della scienza" by Irène Cohen-Janca – which won the Bologna Ragazzi Award 2020 in the Non Fiction section–, "L'isola delle ombre" by Davide Cali (2021), "L'incanto del buio" by Francesca Scotti (2022). Since 2022 she has been teaching at the Academy of Art in Macerata. In 2023 she won the Andersen Prize for best illustrator.

ALSO BY CLAUDIA PALMARUCCI



RIGHTS SOLD: FRENCH, KOREAN, COMPLEX CHINESE



RIGHTS SOLD: ENGLISH, SPANISH, CATALAN, PORTUGUESE, KOREAN AND SIMPLIFIED CHINESE, BULGARIAN



orecchio acerbo

Sudden accelerations, changes of gaze, discoveries. In other words: the seismic continent of childhood.

TERREMOTI



Orecchio acerbo's natural vocation to build bridges with books finds its logical and fruitful outlet in the Terremoti series. Some authors of contemporary Italian fiction are called by the publisher to look at childhood. Each writer narrates a story about an "earthquake", an episode that marks a point of no return in the growth of the protagonists. Words open up to new worlds with the poetry of images, all made by the same artist.

A series illustrated by Mara Cerri.

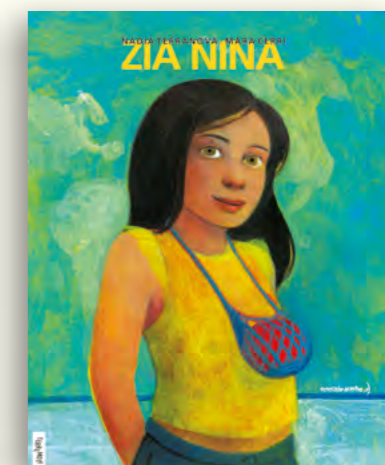


MARA CERRI is considered one of the most talented artists in our country. Her poetic sign has crossed the books of the main Italian publishing houses. Among the most recent titles she illustrated: "L'amica geniale", a graphic novel based on the novel by Elena Ferrante, (Coconino, Vol. 1, 2022), "Il segreto" by Nadia Terranova (Mondadori, 2021) – winner of the Strega Prize Ragazzi and the Andersen Prize. In collaboration with Magda Guidi, she created the animated short film "Via Curiel 8", winner of the Torino Film festival 2011 Short Section.

IN THE SAME SERIES



RIGHTS SOLD: FKOREAN



ALSO BY MARA CERRI



RIGHTS SOLD AND REVERTED:
CASTILIAN, CATALAN, BASQUE,
GALICIAN



RIGHTS SOLD: COMPLEX CHINESE

FRANCA CAVAGNOLI · MARA CERRI
MARY JANES



orecchio acerbo

TERREMOI

MARY JANES [LE SCARPE ALLA BEBÈ]

text Franca Cavagnoli | illustrations Mara Cerri | format: hardback | age 6+ years | cm 22 x 25 | pages 40 | June 2026

Chiara and Giovanna are best friends, and often play together because they live in the same building, but Chiara always hides her dolls when the other one is on the way. Giovanna belongs to a wealthy family, while Chiara's mother is a simple seamstress. When Giovanna's mother gives Chiara a pair of shoes because she has guessed how much she likes them, Chiara's mother gives them back to her, offended. Chiara is very upset and so is Giovanna. And the friendship of the two girls seems to be breaking down. Until the little girl realizes, thinking back to her mother's sin of pride, that learning to share, your dolls as your affections, can be a much wiser way to love.

Share or own? On the one hand, a mother's excessive pride when she sees her daughter being given shoes she can't afford and on the other, that same little girl's reluctance to share toys. Strong emotions that shake thoughts in a story that compares a mother who is perhaps too harsh and a very tender daughter who loves her dolls too much...



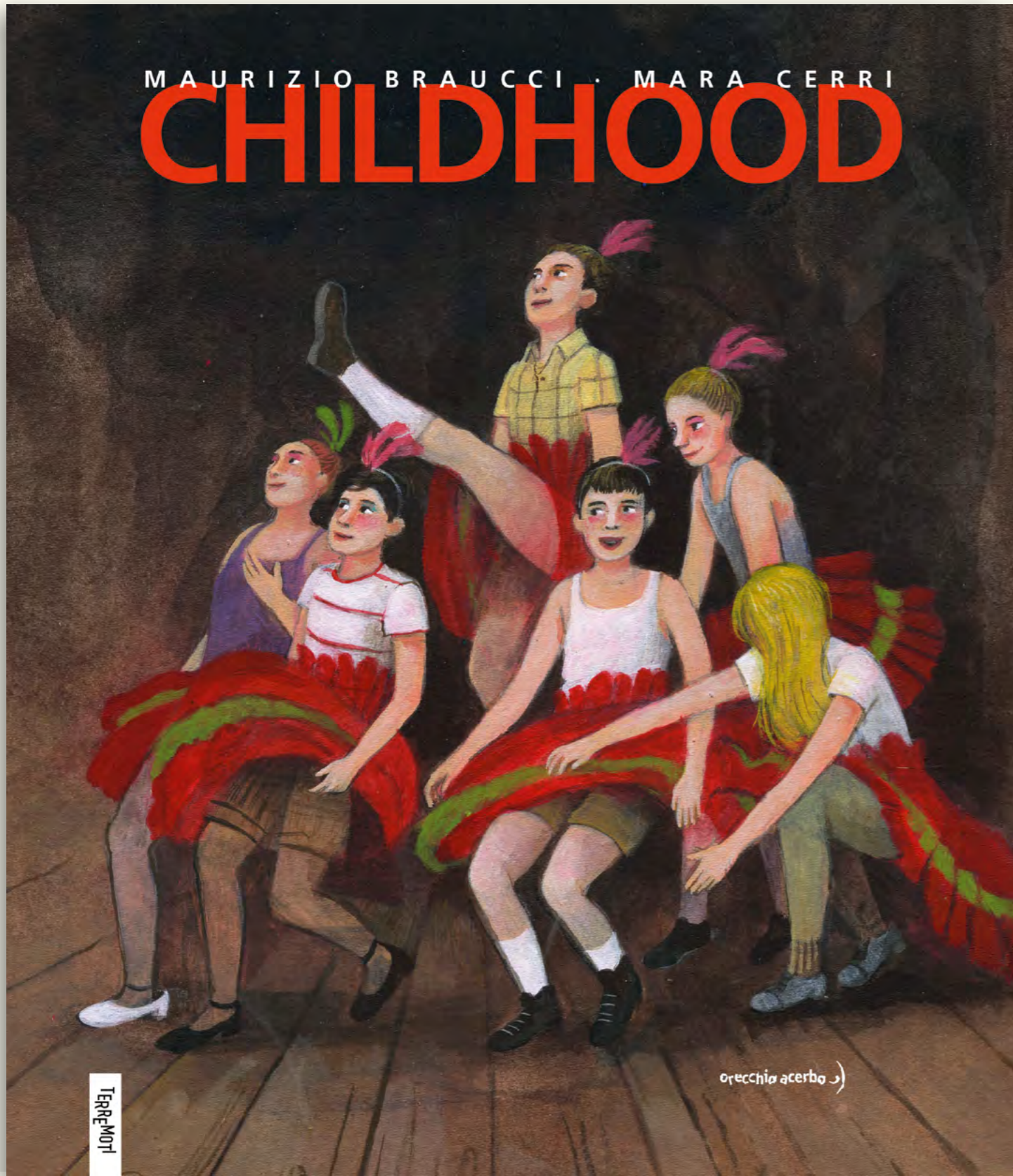


FRANCA CAVGNOLI teaches in the Master's program in Publishing at the University of Milan. She is not only a talented translator, a profession that has earned her numerous awards, but also a talented novelist, published primarily by Frassinelli and Feltrinelli. She has translated and edited works by renowned authors such as John Maxwell Coetzee, Nadine Gordimer, Mark Twain, and James Joyce. Her articles have appeared in Linea d'ombra, Diario, Corriere della Sera, Il manifesto, and Alias. Following the great success in China of her first book, "La bocca dell'Adda," illustrated by Giovanni Emilio Cingolani, "Infanzia" is her second children's book.

ALSO BY FRANCA CAVGNOLI



After the break, she had sat down at his desk continuing to revere within herself a scene which she had never seen. Mom goes up the stairs, rings the bell and says **no, thank you.**



CHILDHOOD [INFANZIA]

text Maurizio Braucci | illustrations Mara Cerri | format: hardback | age 6+ years | cm 22 x 25 | pages 32 | June 2026

A school for the rich shares theater with one for the poor. On that stage the kids perform in an all-male cancan, but they also stage the alleys told by Salvatore di Giacomo, the same ones they walk down to go to school and which hide many mysteries, such as that of the severed hand, which in reality is just a lost glove. Fear vanishes into thin air, but fantasy is rekindled in the teacher's ghost stories that continue to give the whole class a thrill: between the desks and on the street you learn that the line between reality and imagination is very thin indeed. The world inside and the world outside can meet and if school is a good school this happens, maybe right on the boards of a stage.

Naples and its alleys, a handful of children, theatre, dance, mystery and fear stories are the beauties of that school for the poor that the magnificent director Mother Deo offers her little students to grow up, cultivating their great imagination!

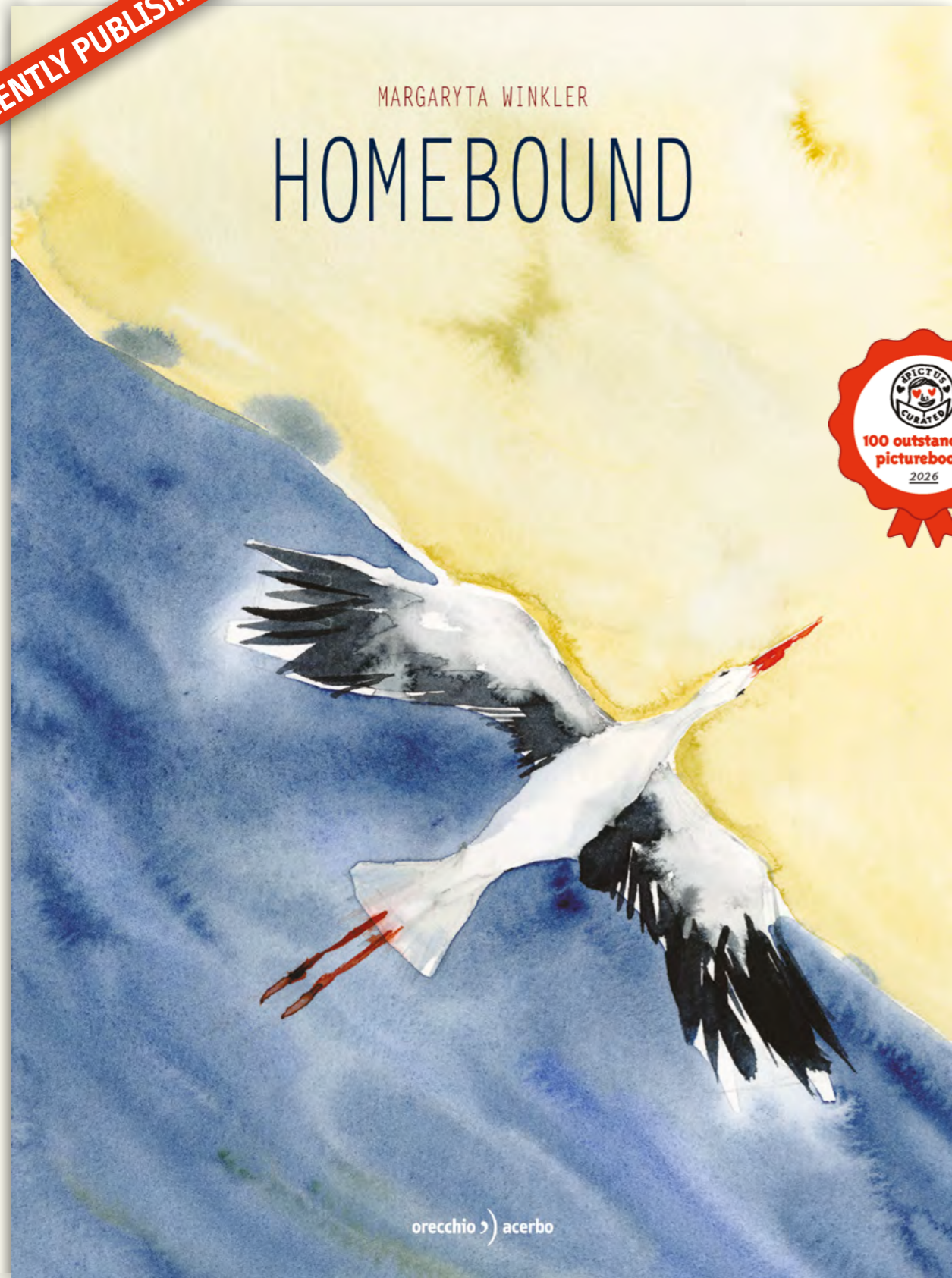


**MAURIZIO
BRAUCCI**

was born in the Montesanto district of central Naples in 1966 and began to write when he was fifteen. His debut novel, "Il mare sbagliato," a story of the Neapolitan Camorra, was published by E/O. In 2004, he published three short stories, which were collected under the title "Una barca di uomini perfetti". In 2005, he debuted as a screenwriter for director Pietro Marcello, but it was in 2009 that he achieved success collaborating on the screenplay for Matteo Garrone's *Gomorra*, with whom he would continue to collaborate. His political and social commitment makes him a tireless promoter of grassroots culture: he has initiated theater and pedagogy projects and workshops, active in the outskirts of cities and more generally on the margins of society, for example in prisons and community centers. He wrote at least twenty screenplays alongside leading directors, he won the 2019 Silver Bear in Berlin for "La paranza dei bambini," a collaboration with Roberto Saviano and Claudio Giovannesi. He also directs short films and reportages, such as "Napoli comincia a Scampia". "Infanzia" is his first text for an illustrated book.



RECENTLY PUBLISHED



HOMEBOUND [TORNANDO A CASA]

text and illustrations Margaryta Winkler | hardback | cm 20 x 30 | pp 56 | 6+ years | November 2025

RIGHTS SOLD: ENGLISH

The flock is in flight, heads home. The first strip of land a stork spots is Cape Kinburn, a sand spit on the Black Sea. It returns every spring to the old nest where it lays its eggs and broods. But Ukraine, once its green home, is now battered by Russia's war of conquest. Explosions, fires blacken the air and redden the sky. But the stork doesn't give up.

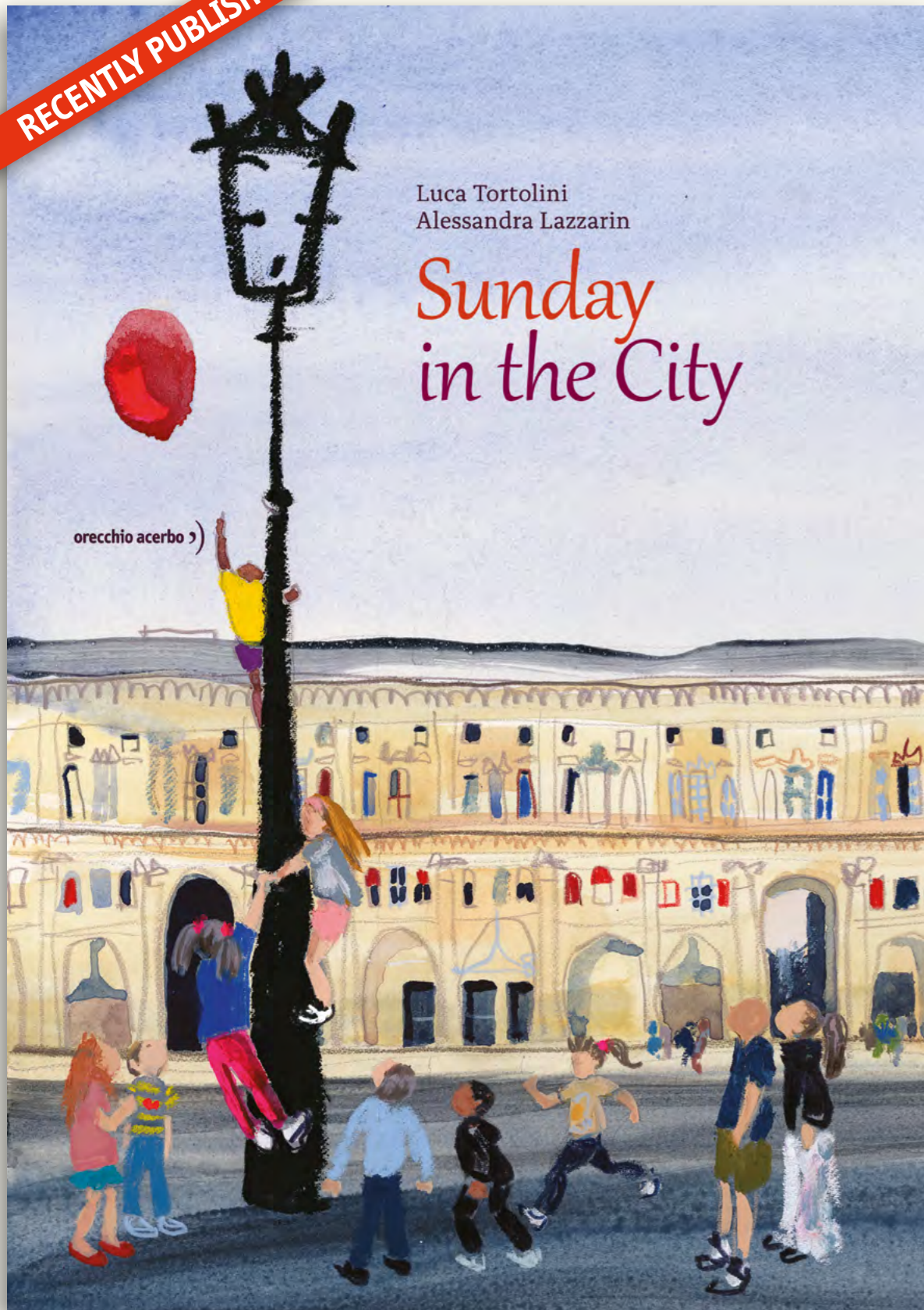
A silent book with a single cry that runs through it: Peace!
The true story of a young Ukrainian artist who fled her homeland plunged into the Russian invasion war.
Like the storks that return to the old nest every year, she too wants to be back to live in peace.
The debut of a young talent in a true story that questions us all.

RECENTLY PUBLISHED

Luca Tortolini
Alessandra Lazzarin

Sunday in the City

orecchio acerbo)



The great thing about the metro is that it goes fast.
But the even nicer thing about the metro is that Mathieu is afraid of it.

We have a go:
«Mathieu, now the underground at full speed
collides with another underground and everything explodes».

Mathieu is a crybaby,
if we insist, he bursts into tears.

We know: it's something you don't do, but it's fun.



We like running and chasing each other around the city.

Marianne less so.
She falls down a lot.
She stumbles,
puts her feet in potholes
and tears her clothes.

SUNDAY IN THE CITY [LA DOMENICA IN CITTÀ]

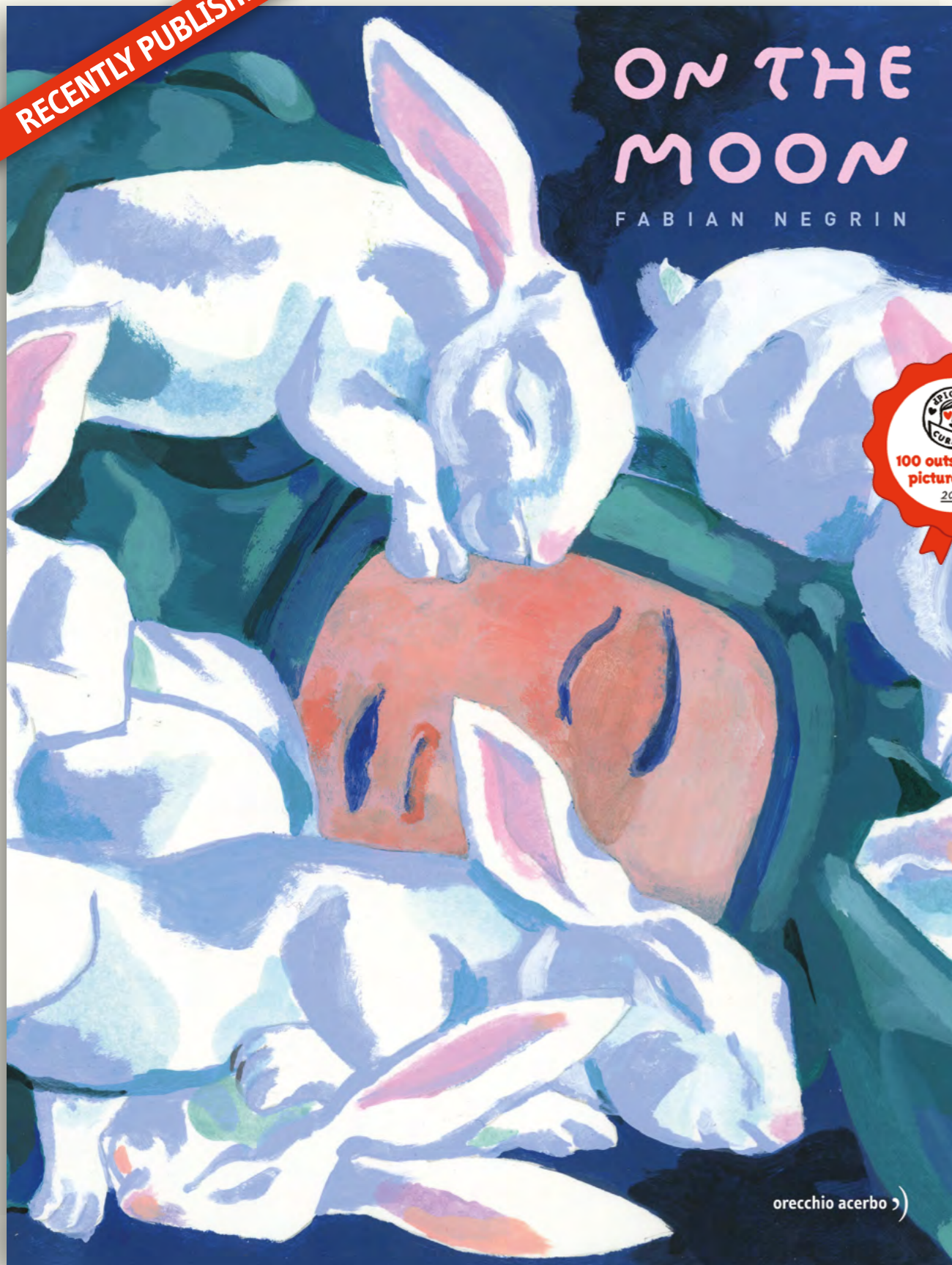
text Luca Tortolini | illustrations Alessandra Lazzarin | hardback | cm 21 x 30 | pp 44 + ends | 5+ years | July 2025

RIGHTS SOLD: KOREAN

Adults, no trace. There are eight of them: males and females, big and small, a nice group of friends who go to conquer the city and one of them, with the yellow shirt, tells. Together they joke, take the subway, run on the street, go to toy shops, snack at kiosks, play to musical statues at the museum and imagine themselves as flowers in the botanical garden: they never feel alone, although the city has corners that can also be scary. They are a team and when the sun goes down, it is really hard to separate each one to go home, leave the game for the usual tran tran. But fortunately "their" city is always a little different and always unexpected!

The empty Sunday of a group of children who fill their rambles in the streets of a big city: their independence, their discoveries, their games and their fantasies in a party of color and movement!

RECENTLY PUBLISHED



ON THE MOON [SULLA LUNA]

text and illustrations Fabian Negrin | hardback | cm 24 x 32 | pp 36 | 4+ years | January 2026

Will there be a child on the Moon? Of course! Will there be also rabbits? Obviously! What about carrots? Will there be carrots on the Moon? Well... this will be a little more complicated.

You still think the stork is carrying the babies? Are you sure the parents found us under a cabbage one morning? Are you sure about that little story of Daddy putting a seed in Mommy's belly? Girls and boys: they are lying to you! Here, in the book you have in your hands, are the answers to the questions that keep you awake: Where do we come from? Where were we before we were born? What did we do before we were born?

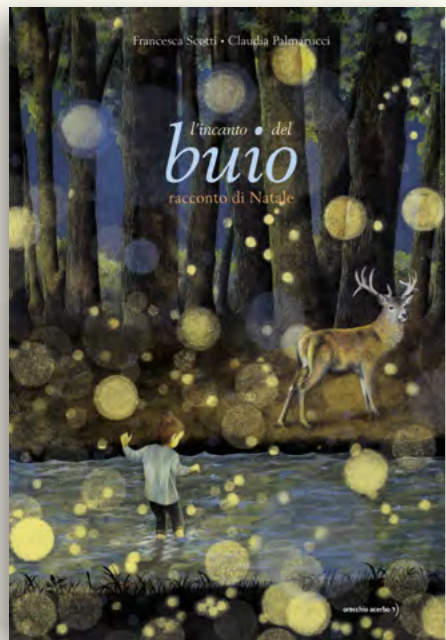


She will spend the whole night stealing the carrots that grow on the rings of that planet. But on Saturn, as we know, there lives a wolf.

There he is! **RUN, CHILD!**



And asleep, the little girl will set off.



THE ENCHANTMENT OF DARKNESS
[L'INCANTO DEL BUIO]
text Francesca Scotti
illustrations Claudia Palmarucci
hardback | cm 21,4 x 30,8
pp 32 | 5+ years
RIGHTS SOLD: FRENCH, KOREAN, COMPLEX CHINESE



STARDUST
text and illustrations Hannah Arnesen
softcover with flaps | cm 19.8 x 26.4
pp 352 | for all ages
RIGHTS SOLD: FRENCH, SPANISH, SWEDISH, SIMPLIFIED CHINESE, KOREAN



FOR A THOUSAND BLOUSES A DAY
[PER MILLE CAMICETTE AL GIORNO]
text Serena Ballista
illustrations Sonia Maria Luce Possentini
hardback | cm 22 x 30
pp 44 | 8+ years
RIGHTS SOLD: SPANISH, BASQUE, CATALAN, PORTUGUESE, KOREAN



THE ISLAND OF SHADOWS
[L'ISOLA DELLE OMBRE]
text Davide Calì
illustrations Claudia Palmarucci
hardback | cm 23 x 30
pp 56 | 6+ years
RIGHTS SOLD: FRENCH, ENGLISH, POLISH, KOREAN AND COMPLEX CHINESE



THIS IS NOT A CARROT.
[QUESTA NON È UNA CAROTA.]
text and illustrations Dylan Hewitt
hardback | cm 27 x 21
pp 40 | 5+ years
RIGHTS SOLD: FRENCH, DUTCH, SIMPLIFIED CHINESE, ENGLISH, KOREAN, COMPLEX CHINESE



MOUSE MICK & MOUSE MIKE
[TOPO TIPO & TOPO TAPPO]
text Roberto Piumini
illustrations Irene Volpiano
hardback | cm 29.7 x 22
pp 32 | 5+ years
RIGHTS SOLD: FRENCH, SPANISH, CATALAN, KOREAN, RUSSIAN, BELARUSIAN



IT'S TIME TO GO
[È TEMPO DI ANDARE]
text and illustrations Kim Sena
hardback | cm 22.8 x 33.4
pp 44 | 6+ years
RIGHTS SOLD: GERMAN, GREEK, KOREAN, SIMPLIFIED CHINESE, RUSSIAN (REVERTED)



MARIE CURIE
text Irène Cohen-Janca
illustrations Claudia Palmarucci
hardback | cm 16.5 x 26.5
pp 88 | 8+ years
RIGHTS SOLD: ENGLISH, SPANISH, CATALAN, PORTUGUESE, KOREAN, SIMPLIFIED CHINESE AND BULGARIAN



HOW TO READ A BOOK?
[COME SI LEGGE UN LIBRO?]
text Daniel Fehr
illustrations Maurizio A.C. Quarello
hardback | cm 23 x 33
pp 28 | 5+ years
RIGHTS SOLD: FRENCH, SPANISH, GREEK, KOREAN, SIMPLIFIED CHINESE. GERMAN AND TURKISH REVERTED



IN THE WOLF'S MOUTH
[LE CASE DEGLI ALTRI BAMBINI]
text Luca Tortolini
illustrations Claudia Palmarucci
softcover with flaps | cm 24 x 33
pp 48 | 6+ years
RIGHTS SOLD: FRENCH, SIMPLIFIED CHINESE, KOREAN



LEA AND THE ELEPHANT
[LEA E L'ELEFANTE]
text and illustrations Kim Sena
hardback | cm 23.2 x 33.4
pp 44 | 6+ years
RIGHTS SOLD: PORTUGUESE, KOREAN, SIMPLIFIED CHINESE, GREEK, ARABIC, COMPLEX CHINESE RUSSIAN AND TURKISH REVERTED



PEOPLESANIMALS
[UOMINIANIMALI]
text and illustrations Yoko Heiligers
hardback | cm 20.5 x 30.5
pp 56 | 3+ years
RIGHTS SOLD: FRENCH, KOREAN, SIMPLIFIED CHINESE

orecchio acerbo 
HALL 26 B25

viale Aurelio Saffi, 54 | 00152 Roma
tel. fax +39.06.5811861
www.orecchioacerbo.com
segreteria.orecchioacerbo@gmail.com

FOREIGN RIGHTS

Koja Agency
carin.bacho@kojaagency.com
catharina.lantz@kojaagency.com

