

# MIDDLE GRADE & YA FICTION

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# MIDDLE GRADE & YA FICTION

## Come due spine **14+** *Like two thorns*

By Alessandra Star

When Gabriel unexpectedly returns to Rome, the wall of lies that Veronica has built in recent years is likely to collapse. It is not true, in fact, that Veronica has forgotten him; it is not true that she has built a new life; it is not true that she no longer thinks of their love story. And most importantly, he's not okay. Because since she was 15, Veronica has had breast cancer that can take her away at any moment. And Gabriel never knew about this, and never must know, nothing.

It was precisely when Veronica was fifteen years old, in fact, that the paths of the two crossed. She, Veronica called Nica, a simple and shy girl with a passion for drawing and he, Gabriel, for all Gabbo, who writes sonnets and is the bully of their school in the suburbs.

But just when she was fifteen, Veronica also discovered something else: an extremely aggressive breast cancer that risks drastically shortening her stay on earth. Everything, then, becomes frantic. Will Nica be able to get a kiss from Gabo? The girl seems to have to fight with everything and everyone to get a shred of happiness. But always without losing the irony and, above all, without confessing to anyone what she is going through. She can do it on her own, Veronica, to put her life back on the tracks, even when that life takes decidedly unexpected directions. Published for the first time on Wattpad under the same, the novel was a great success for the public, with over 200,000 readings, and was awarded in 2020 with the Watty Award, the award for best fiction on the Web platform.



pp. 240 • 14 x 20 cm  
€ 16,90 • Softback  
9788851199036

### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

**Alessandra Star** is the pseudonym of the Roman television journalist Alessandra Startari. *Come due spine* is his debut novel, born from the urgency of telling the true story that has changed forever the lives of Alessandra and her family.



## Il Ladro Gourmet 9+ *The Gourmet Thief*

By Laura Orsolini

Gustavo Strano is the starred chef of a prestigious restaurant in Milan: in his dishes he puts love and fantasy. When the restaurant is in serious financial trouble, the owner is obliged to close and to fire Gustavo.

Gustavo is hopeless and jobless. Till he receives a mysterious letter from the employment office in which the sender asks whether he is willing to do any work.

But can he really do any work? Yes, Gustavo is willing to.

Pity that he is requested to rob the villa of one of the richest entrepreneurs.

Backing off is impossible, but if he must be a thief ... Gustavo intends to be a gentleman thief. He will just leave a gourmet dish to his victims, or maybe this could incriminate him?

A bit Lupin, a bit “gangsta granny”  
a thief so gentleman that after stealing  
he always leaves a gourmet dish for his victims



pp. 224 • 13 x 20 cm  
€ 13,90 • Hardback Cover  
9788851197155

### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

**Laura Orsolini**, loves books. She has a bookstore, but she is also a scout and editor and teaches creative writing. She is responsible for the writing workshops at the Experience Summer Camp, the first Italian campus on sport and literature.

## Vesuvio 12+ *Vesuvius*

By Marco D'Amore and Francesco Ghiaccio

Vesuvius is a book about Italy, about courage, about youngsters who are ready to ride their scooters at a hundred per hour as they chase one another. It's a story about rebellion and determination and about what it means to grow up and to find your own place in the world. Federico, known as Vesuvius, on an extraordinary journey between Naples and Milan, seeks to understand who he is and whose side he's on in the big organized-crime game of the camorra.

Federico and Susy are thirteen and have the scent of freedom in their hair, their muscles full of adrenalin, their dreams full of courage. For them life is a crazy race aboard their scooters through the narrow lanes of Naples. Lively and reckless, they lead two gangs of youngsters through reciprocal battles and humiliations – each determined to take everything. They are the children of the most powerful organized crime bosses in the city, they are rivals. And so, for Federico and Susy destiny is already written: there can only be one winner while the other will bite the dust, knowing that the loser is worth nothing. Sometimes, however, something happens that doesn't allow you to turn back, something that forces you to accelerate to the point where you lose control. And suddenly life is transformed into a desperate race to the summit of the volcano, a place where you can find yourself or lose yourself forever. But it's also a place where the power of the choice is in your own hands.

### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

**Marco D'Amore**: actor, director, screenwriter and producer. Since 2005 he has written, directed, and produced for the theatre, cinema and television. He is the leading actor in *Gomorra*, which he has also directed since 2018. In 2019 he wrote and acted in the film *L'immortale* – silver ribbon 2020.

**Francesco Ghiaccio**: director, playwright, screenwriter, his debut in cinema direction came with *Un posto sicuro* (2015) and *Dolcissime* (2019), both written with Marco D'Amore.



pp. 144 • 13 x 20 cm  
€ 13,90 • Hardback with jacket  
9788851184599



## Nettare e Ambrosia 7+ Nectar and Ambrosia

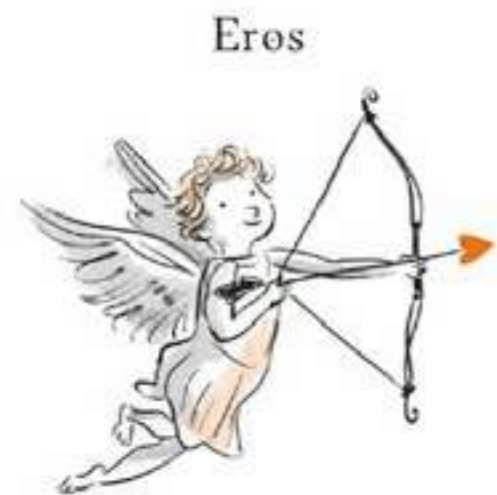
By Sabina Colloredo  
with the illustrations by Ilaria Urbinati

In this series the real protagonists of the myth are two curious and enterprising kids.

Let's meet with Nettare and Ambrosia, the two little cupbearers of the gods! On the top of Olympus they serve at the table of Zeus and his numerous family, listening to everything they say... They often go down to Earth pretending to be mortal and find themselves involved in the most famous mythological adventures.

While gods and heroes are caught up in their disputes, they find the solution to the most difficult situations! So it's not Athena to suggest to Ulysses the idea of the Trojan horse, but the same Nectar...

But sometimes the two get carried away and make mistakes, and then it's real trouble, and the gods will have to remedy it! A series to make young readers approach for the first time the world of mythology, following the adventures of two kids who move among the myths, in search of themselves and of the myth itself.



Eros



pp. 128 with 10 color illustrations • 14 x 20 cm  
€ 7,90 • softback with flaps

**Nettare e Ambrosia e il mondo oscuro /  
Nettare e Ambrosia and the dark world**  
9788851195366

**Nettare e Ambrosia e la magia di Medea/  
Nettare e Ambrosia and Medea's sorcery**  
9788851195373

**Nettare e Ambrosia e il cavallo di ferro/  
Nettare e Ambrosia and the iron horse**  
9788851195380

**Nettare e Ambrosia nel cuore del labirinto/  
Nettare e Ambrosia in the heart of the labyrinth**  
9788851199302

**Nettare e Ambrosia e la mela d'oro/  
Nettare e Ambrosia and the golden apple**  
9788851199296



### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

Sabina Colloredo, has been creative director in some of the most important advertising agencies in Milan. With the birth of her daughters she began writing children's books that she published with Edizioni EL, Emme Edizioni, Einaudi Ragazzi and De Agostini. She has written historical and mythological novels, female stories and biographies, and in Italy has sold more than 220.000 copies.

With De Agostini she published two titles for kids: the book on mythology *La Bellezza di Medusa* and the collections of poems *Tutti diversi*. She is internationally recognized as a reference author for books on mythological themes.



Nettare

Ambrosia



Astianatte

NETTARE e  
AMBROSIA



## Ti sento 14+ *I can feel you*

By Valentina Torchia

A boy who believes he can do anything, a girl who knows she is nothing. An unbreakable bond that could destroy or repair their lives forever

Edoardo is sixteen years old. He's charismatic, handsome, ath-letic, and... he can't feel pain. A superhero, as he calls himself. A delicate boy, as his parents call him. The reason why is the extremely rare disorder CIPA, which involves congenital insen-sitivity to pain. Edoardo has never hurt himself stubbing his toe on a piece of furniture, or felt the burn of a boiling hot pan in his hand. It sounds strange, but this condition makes Edoardo feel special, chosen. At least until the day he meets Aurora, his ex-girlfriend's best friend, who punches him right in the face. That's when, for the time, Edoardo feels. He feels pain, and he's shaken by it. But he also feels alive. How did that happen? Could he be getting better? And who is this Aurora? Maybe this time Edoardo, the best-looking guy in school, will be the one to chase a girl...

Edoardo's story is about adolescence, first loves, and excess. The perfect novel for anyone who loved *All the Bright Places* and the TV series *Skins*. An intense story about forbidden dreams, disappointments, and pain, love of music, and self-discovery. A story set in Italy, in fashionable Milan (Porta Venezia, Brera).



pp. 272 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 14,90 • Hardback Cover  
9788851182717

### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

**Valentina Torchia**, writer, was born in Milan in 1983. She graduated in Medical Biotechnology, she works as a Medical Writer and scientific journalist. She has always been passionate about stories, she attended the Bottega Finzioni in Bologna and in her free time she writes novels.

## Io al posto tuo 14+ *If I were you*

By Valentina Torchia

Bianca and Manuel at first glance are very different: Bianca is 18 years old and Manuel is only 15. Bianca lives in Milano, while Manuel in a small village on the shores of Lake Maggiore. Bianca has an ordinary family, while Manuel's mother is Japanese and his father is a passionate about East and holistic medicine. Bianca likes to joke about death and wants to feel more alive, while Manuel likes cooking and, well, ...Bianca! Yet, Bianca and Manuel have, to unite them, something stronger than any difference: a heart problem. And no, it's not an unrequited love crush.

So, when the transplant becomes the only chance for both to heal and escape a life full of limitations, their friendship seems to break. And when it is Bianca who receives - unexpectedly - the heart first, fear becomes reality, because in her new life Bianca knows Blu, an older boy with a passion for risky adventures. Convinced that she does not deserve the new heart, Bianca at first lets herself be involved by Blu in increasingly dangerous challenges (to be posted on social networks), but then she herself to put herself in danger voluntarily. Perhaps for the sake of adrenaline or perhaps for an unconscious desire to self-destruct.

After her success debut novel "*Ti sento*", another intense story by Valentina Torchia on love, escape-from-reality and the complexity of emotions and self-discovery.



pp. 320 • 13 x 20 cm  
€ 16,90 • Hardback with jacket  
9788851198503

## Sono Francesco 12+ *I'm Francis*

By Alberto Pellai and Barbara Tamborini

The new novel by best seller authors Alberto Pellai and Barbara Tamborini is a metaphor for life and adolescence: it brings up to date the life of saint Francis of Assisi.

Francesco is a greta ante litteram: a boy and a man who teaches us to look at the world with love and generosity. Francesco is 18 years old and has a burning fire in his chest. He doesn't know who he is, he doesn't know what he wants, he doesn't know what his path is. Maybe it's girls. Maybe it's motorcycle racing. Thanks to his father Bernardo, he has no money problems and can have everything he wants. But Francesco doesn't know what he wants. He does not see the finish line at the end of his journey. He leads a life of 100 per hour, including discos and luxury restaurants with friends. But everything changes the day when, by mistake, he invests a priest, don G. From that day Francesco slows down, stops, decides to observe what is around him. And around him there is a world shouting for attention. The tramp in which he stumbled, for distraction or for bravado is a person, not a pile of clothes. The prostitute who lives on the edge of the road is human, she has a story to tell. Thanks to the words of don G. and to dialogue with friends, Francis will begin to change himself and the world.

Pellai investigate the human soul by capturing the deepest facets of adolescence: the doubts, desires, passions and errors of children of all times.



pp. 256 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 14,90 • Hardback Cover  
9788851176006

### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

**Alberto Pellai**, a doctor and children psychiatrist, is also a researcher at the Bio-Medical department at the Università degli Studi di Milano, where he works on prevention. In 2004 the Italian Ministry of Health has awarded him the silver medal of merit in Public Health. He is the author of many books for parents, teachers, teenagers and children. For De Agostini he has published *I papà vengono da Marte*, *le mamme da Venere* (2014), *Tutto troppo presto* (2015), *Girl R-evolution* (2016), *Piccolo Genio* (2016).

**Barbara Tamborini**, an educational psychologist and writer, conducts educational workshops in schools of all levels and educational activities for parents and teachers. With Alberto Pellai, she is the author of many parenting books among which *I papà vengono da Marte*, *le mamme da Venere* (2014). *She is mother of four*.

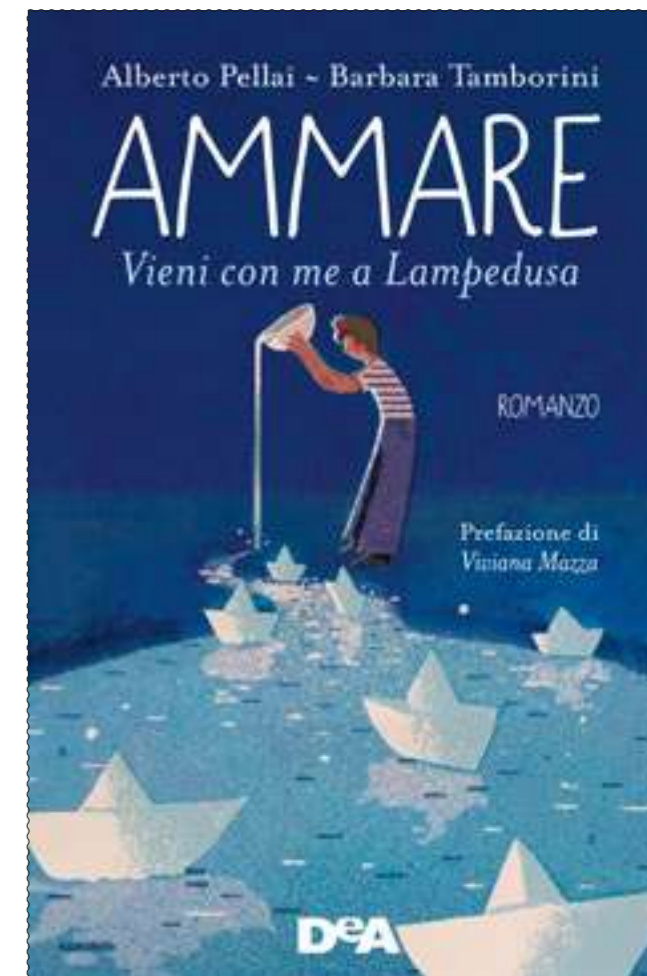
## Ammare. Vieni con me a Lampedusa 10+ *Come with me to Lampedusa*

Mattia is 15 years old. Caterina is 13. They have many questions and a few replies: on the world, on the future, on themselves. Their paths cross. First of all, almost by chance, in real life. Then, on purpose, in the lines of a blog: [Vieniconmealampedusa.it](http://Vieniconmealampedusa.it). Mattia works on the blog, under a false identity. In the blog, he is Franz, a boy who wants to make the world aware of the migrants' fate. This idea comes from a school search, even if Mattia never wants to get involved in anything, even if he prefers to hide behind a mass of curly hair, even if he keeps in his drawer a well hidden list of dreams. Mattia feels he cannot keep silent any longer, not in front of all those who die in the Mediterranean Sea looking for hope, for a way out. For the first time, Mattia takes over his life to make something important, to make a mark. And he invites a politician to spend a week with him in a migrants' center. Maybe this will not happen and no politician will reply to Mattia's call, but what he will find through his blog is much more: thousands of followers ready to look up with him. An also a special friend: Caterina.

### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

**Alberto Pellai**, a doctor and children psychiatrist, is also a researcher at the Bio-Medical department at the Università degli Studi di Milano, where he works on prevention. In 2004 the Italian Ministry of Health has awarded him the silver medal of merit in Public Health. He is the author of many books for parents, teachers, teenagers and children. For De Agostini he has published *I papà vengono da Marte*, *le mamme da Venere* (2014), *Tutto troppo presto* (2015), *Girl R-evolution* (2016), *Piccolo Genio* (2016).

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pp. 224 • 13,5 x 21 cm  
€ 12,90 • Hardback with jacket  
9788851148195



## Andava tutto troppo bene 14+ *All too well*

By Martina Socrate

Up to some months ago, everything was going well, too well. Everyone could say Martina was a positive and cheerful girl, full of creativity, the best friend you could ever dream of. But after the registration to university and after moving to the frantic and big city of Milan, things have changed. Why you find so much dust under you bed? Why pedestrians cross also with the red? Why renting a dump without bidet costs more than a Chanel bag? Martina has no replies to these questions, but if she is so afraid of new challenges. And the present challenge is to find a more economic new flat or a job to pay for it. But what happens if love comes into it? That everything starts to go wrong. A brilliant, compelling and funny comedy.



pp. 224 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 15,90 • Hardback Cover  
9788851184889

### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

**Martina Socrate** is 22 years old. During the first lockdown in 2019, she started to post her comic videos on the web where she had a huge success. She now cooperates with the most famous influencer Chiara Ferragni and has written her first brilliant book.

## Le parole che ho trovato per te 14+ *Where I found you*

By Alessio Tavino

Love, poetry, lust weave together in a touching and gripping novel. This is the story of an outsider who is sure poetry can give him all the answers he needs. But how can literature help him when he falls in love with two very different girls? What will be more important: interior beauty or exterior beauty, the one that everyone can see?

If there's one thing Alessio is certain about, it's that poetry is part of him. He loves writing, inventing stories and words, listening to how they dance together. But to declare that you want to be a poet ... that's something too unusual. It seems self-congratulatory, repelling. Yet all Alessio really wants is to be like the others, and perhaps for this reason when Maggetti, their eccentric teacher, asks his pupils to each give a presentation to the class, Alessio tells a tale that's different from the one in his heart. After all, he doesn't want to end up like Rosalba, the ugly girl on the train, the one with the washed-out pink hair and her earplugs always in. The one everyone laughs about and no-one ever talks to. So he decides to hide his passion away, until the day he meets Sofia. Beautiful, bright, magnetic. The perfect girl. Completely unexpectedly, Sofia understands the value that words have for Alessio and lets herself be carried away by them. So it is that Alessio lives the love story of his life – totalizing, dizzying, incredible. The perfect love story with the perfect girl. But poems, Alessio knows, are also made of magnificent imperfections. Such as when Rosalba, getting off the train, accidentally drops a little piece of paper. It's an insignificant little scrap, folded over several times, but it contains something destined to change their lives forever.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

**Alessio Tavino**, was born in Arezzo in 1996. He is a young Italian poet passionate about words and music, and in his life he works as a creative for a communication agency. His poems speak of stories that end and others that begin, speak of love and have the strength to be themselves. On Social Media they went viral, reaching to an audience of over 2 millions dreamers. *Le parole che ho trovato per te* is his debut novel.



pp. 368 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 15,90 • Hardback with jacket

**Le parole che ho trovato per te**  
9788851184797

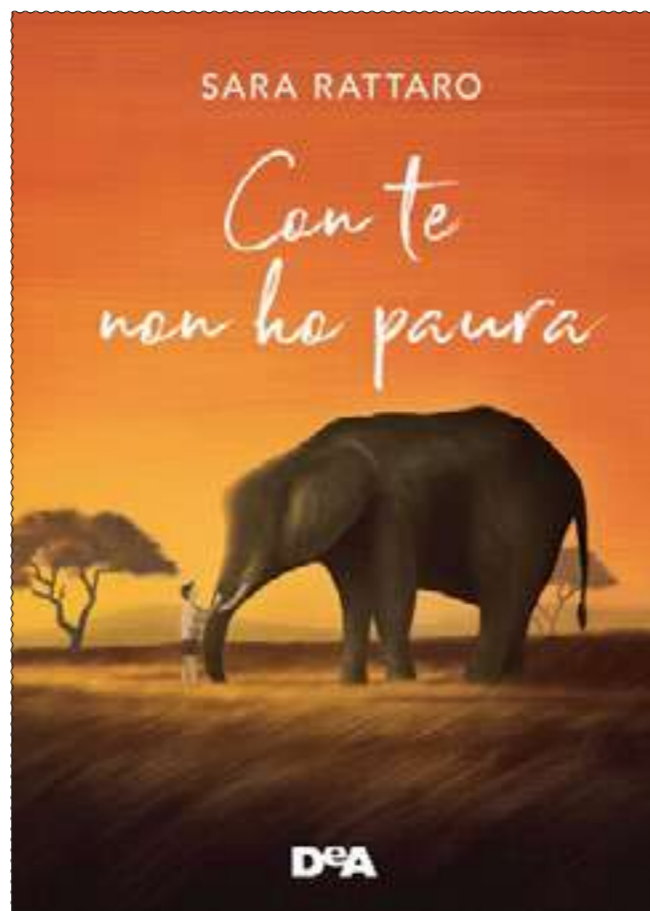


## Con te non ho paura 8+ *With you i'm not Afraid*

By Sara Rattaro

Not everyone is lucky enough to spend their holidays in Africa, among lions, rhinos and zebras... This is not the case, however, with Samuel departing for Kikao with his mother, a world-renowned elephant scholar. Samuele can't wait to immerse himself in this fabulous land full of secrets, to taste its perfumes and colors: above all, he intends to run in the bush, together with his new friends, Atin, Giorgio and Simone, to meet live the animals of the savannah. It is during one of these expeditions that the boys come across the terrible Badù, the elephant that has long terrorized the villagers. But in the savannah not everything is what it seems. And Samuel is about to find it

This book is part of an environmental and animal series: a world-famous ethologist travels the world with her son Samuel to meet and visit wild animals in danger. The first title (*Con Te Non Ho Paura*) is set in Africa and is about an elephant. Each title can be read separately from the others: as *fil rouge* we have the characters and the themes of environment, freedom and friendship.



pp. 128 with 10 color illustrations • 16 x 22,5 cm  
€ 14,90 • Hardback Cover  
9788851173876

### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

**Sara Rattaro**, is the author of many best seller novels translated in several languages and was also awarded Premio Bancarella.

## Insieme nella foresta 8+ *Together in the rainforest*

By Sara Rattaro

Samuele has flown from Milan to Gabon, a country in Central Africa that he knows only on the world maps. He is here because her mother, a renowned veterinary and an expert in animal behaviour, has been called to solve a strange case in a colony of gorillas. Driven by a park ranger, Samuele and Anna go to the rainforest where they find a gorilla in distress. Between Samuele and the gorilla starts a special relation, incomprehensible to many adults who still consider gorillas as dangerous. Will Samuele and her mother be able to convince hunters not to use violence against gorillas to protect their village?

This book is part of an environmental and animal series of 4 titles: a world-famous ethologist travels the world with her son Samuel to meet and visit wild animals in danger. The first title (*Con Te Non Ho Paura*) is set in Africa and is about an elephant. Each title can be read separately from the others: as *fil rouge* we have the characters and the themes of environment, freedom and friendship.



pp. 112 with 10 color illustrations • 16 x 22,5 cm  
€ 14,90 • Hardback Cover  
9788851185107

### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

**Sara Rattaro**, is the author of many best seller novels translated in several languages and was also awarded Premio Bancarella.

## Kid Il ragazzo che voleva essere Diabolik

12+

### Kid *The boy who wanted to be Diabolik*

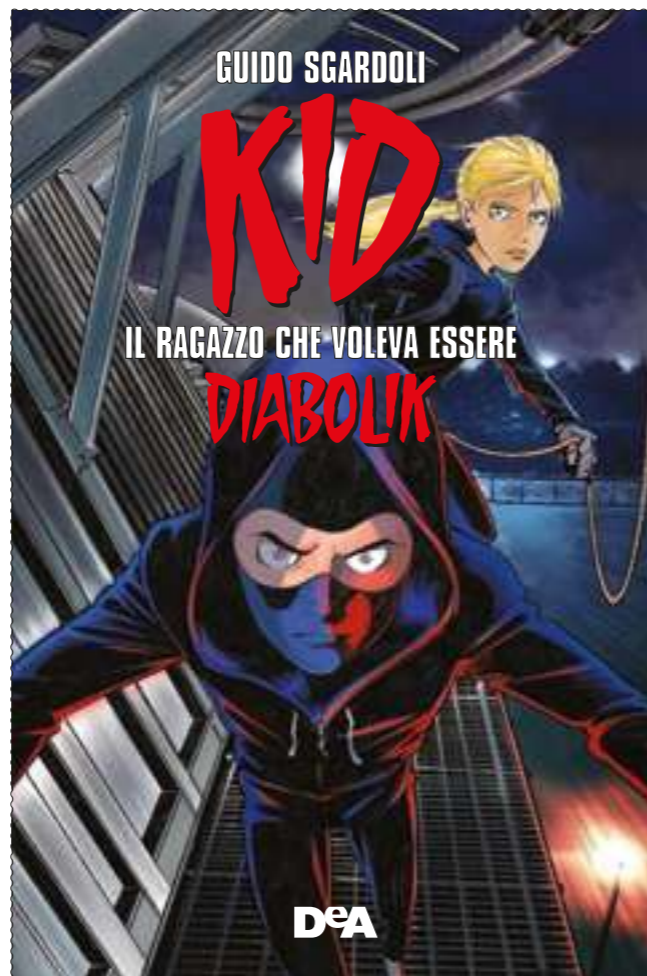
By Guido Sgardoli  
with the illustrations of Andrea Artusi

The brilliant outlaw of Italian comics enters the world of middle grade fiction

Kid's 13, he loves risk, adventure, danger. Manga and martial arts are his daily bread, the speed of go-karts and the roar of engines make his heart beat. But there's something missing... it's like he's living all this with a filter, with detachment. Then, the day he and his friends go to see the movie on Diabolik, something snaps in his head. He understands. His true ambition is not danger or competition. What he wants is to make a difference in the world, like Diabolik, a ruthless but above all brilliant and determined hero. The Kid is well aware, however, that life is not like a comic book... and that things almost never go as we would like. At least until he meets a girl who looks exactly like Eva Kant.

DIABOLIK is the character created by Angela and Luciana Giussani in 1962 and that marked a real revolution in the world of Italian comics.

Monkey Punch got inspiration from Diabolik when creating his famous Lupin III.



pp. 256 + 10 of comic strips • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 14,90 • Hardback Cover  
9788851181826

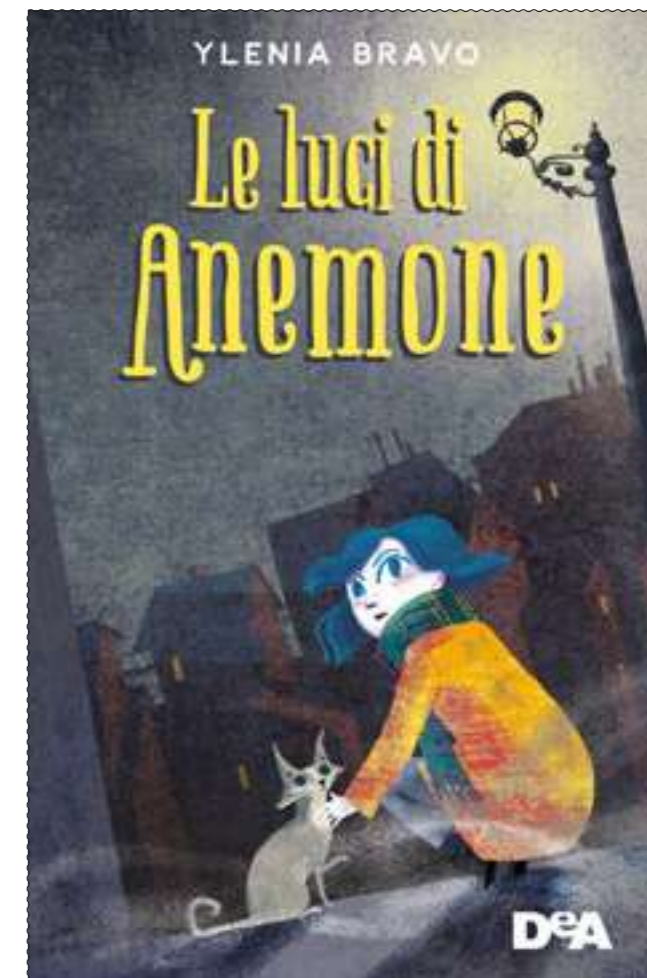
#### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

**Guido Sgardoli** from 2004 he has written over 80 titles of fiction for kids, teens and adults with the most important Italian publishers like Rizzoli, Giunti, Einaudi Ragazzi, Piemme, Mondadori. His books have been translated in many languages (in Spain, Japan, China, France, Portugal, Greece, Turkey, Korea, Poland). He was awarded Premio Bancarellino 2009, Premio Andersen 2009 as best Italian writer, International Board on Books for Young People Italia (IBBY) as best writer in the Honour List 2012, Premio Andersen 2015, Premio Andersen 2018.

## Le luci di Anemone 8+ *Anemone and the streetlights*

By Ylenia Bravo  
Illustrated by Carla Manea

Anemone is a nine year old girl who lives in a very small town called Farola. She is not particularly brave and does not like adventure. But when Farola sinks into darkness and her cat Mila disappears, Anemone realizes that she must find the courage to face her fears. If only there were someone next to her to shed some light ... This is how Anemone, while groping in the deepest darkness in search of Mila, runs into a strange big guy named Malamalama. The big guy is a lamplighter, and his goal is to illuminate the whole world. Unfortunately, however, since Farola's streetlights have gone out irreversibly, troubles seem endless. The inhabitants of Farola are frightened and his colleagues from the association of the lamplighters are angry. And in all this ... in the dark nightmares are growing. Big, terrible and bossy nightmares. But Anemone this time does not intend to behave like a frightened girl: this time she is ready for anything to save her beloved kitten and her city.



pp. 208 • 13 x 20 cm  
€ 12,90 • Hardback Cover  
9788851173869

#### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

The first novel by **Ylenia Bravo**, a young author from the Holden school.



## Lostland.

La terra degli oggetti smarriti 8+

## Lostland.

### *The Magical Realm of Misplaced Things*

By Margy Simmons

Have you ever asked yourself where things go when they get lost? Things like hair elastics, single socks and gloves, games that literally seem to disappear into thin air? Well, they don't get lost, they get found. Lostland is a universe of missing objects, a place that is inaccessible for anyone who doesn't believe in magic. No human being has ever set foot beyond its borders; but the word "impossible" is not in Ella's vocabulary.

Eleven-year-old Ella Solaris is the messiest girl in the world. She loses everything: new jeans, phones, her mother's pear earrings... But the day that the key to her secret diary disappears, is the worst day of her life. That key was a gift from her Dad, the last memory she has of him. Ella is so desperate to find it that she even asks Grandma Clara. No matter that since she fell ill with Alzheimer's Granny talks to her bedroom closet, claiming it is the secret gateway to Lostland, where little fairies, guardians of lost memories, hide the truth: *It is in Lostland that Ella will find her key.* Ella is old enough not to believe in fairy tales anymore; she knows that she is the only one to blame for the key disappearing. If only she were a little more orderly...



pp. 224 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 13,90 • Hardback Cover  
9788851174668

#### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

**Simona Sparaco** is a bestselling author with over 180 thousand copies sold in Italy. This is her extraordinary debut novel in children's fiction.

She was born in Rome, where she now lives and works.

She wrote her first story at the age of twelve, has studied screenwriting, and currently writes for Italian television.

Her first novel, *Lovebook*, was published in 2009.

She was awarded Rome Prize and she was finalist of the Strega Prize with the novel *Nobody knows about us*, and her books have been translated into several languages.

## Oltre il sentiero 8+

### *Off the way*

Alberto is eleven and he is fond of the mountains.

When his father invites him on a hike together, the boy is very excited.

The adventure in the natural world is incredible, among tall trees, mysterious animals and hidden paths, till something unexpected happens. The father of Alberto falls into a crevasse and the boy is suddenly alone.

Alone in nature, alone on the mountains, alone in the cold, while the sun goes down quickly. Alberto thus starts his difficult way to summon assistance: because he is the only one who can rescue his father.

A story of growth, full of poetic moments and with a gentle and moving ending.



pp. 96 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 15,90 • Hardback  
9788851165406

#### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

**Guido Sgardoli** from 2004 he has written over 80 titles of fiction for kids, teens and adults with the most important Italian publishers like Rizzoli, Giunti, Einaudi Ragazzi, Piemme, Mondadori. His books have been translated in many languages (in Spain, Japan, China, France, Portugal, Greece, Turkey, Korea, Poland). He was awarded Premio Bancarellino 2009, Premio Andersen 2009 as best Italian writer, International Board on Books for Young People Italia (IBBY) as best writer in the Honour List 2012, Premio Andersen 2015, Premio Andersen 2018.



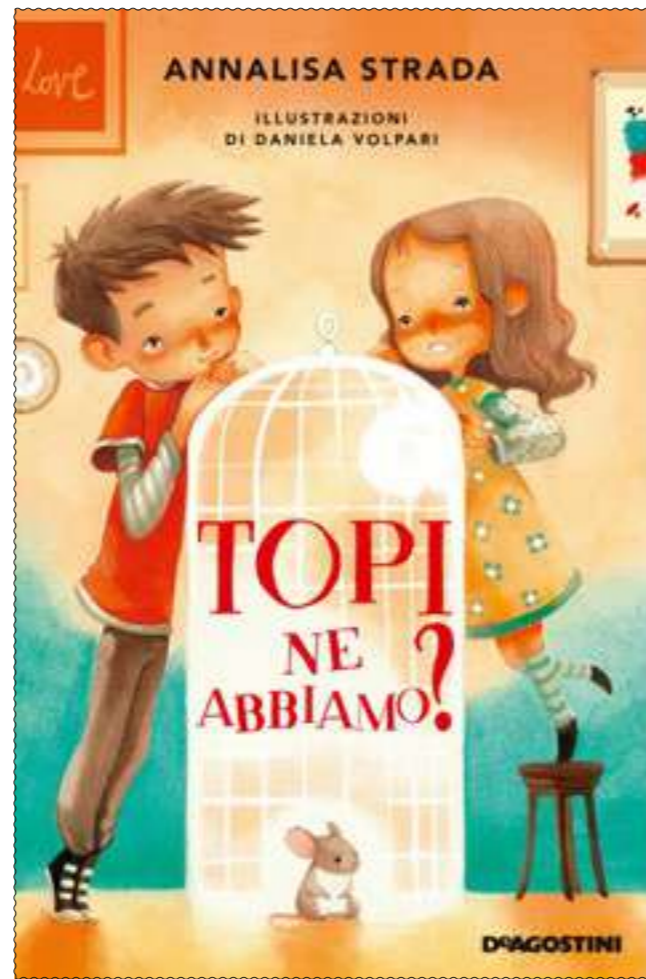
## Topi ne abbiamo? 8+ *Have we got a mouse?*

Norma lives in a nice and boisterous family, with three cats, an erratic grandmother and a nutty aunt who travels around the world and brings back some weird gifts to her grandchildren.

At the start of the adventure of Norma and of her family, there is the unexpected, odd and unmanageable gift of aunt Nessie: a mouse! A female, to be precise, and called Topolla. But while Norma is excited about the new family member, Topolla is not a pretty little country mouse: she almost as big as a cat, with a fat red tail and a vibrant nose. And she does not want to stay locked in a cage.

So here are Norma and her family in a desperate and funny hunt after Topolla, a clever and naughty mouse longing for freedom.

A funny and gentle story, written by one of the most beloved Italian writers. With *Topi ne abbiamo?* Annalisa Strada, who has been awarded the Andersen Prize in 2014, offers us a fabulous and amazing story: an unpredictable rat hunt enriched by the illustrations of Daniela Volpari, specialised in children's illustrations and awarded Tapirulan – Sergio Toppi Prize 2010.



pp. 130 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 15,90 • Hardback  
9788851152253

### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

**Annalisa Strada** lives and works near Brescia. After working in the editorial field, she has become a writer of children and juvenile stories. She has been awarded the Andersen Prize in 2014 *Una sottile linea rosa*, Giunti, Premio Gigante delle Langhe in 2010 *Fino all'ultima mosca*, San Paolo, Premio Arpino in 2011 and in 2013, and she is finalist to Premio Cento 2017 *Io, Emanuela EL*. She teaches in secondary school. She is not happy unless she is among books or school desks!

## Le cinque isole 8+ *The five islands*

In a far away corner of the ocean, there are 5 islands whose inhabitants live together peacefully. The island of Mada and that of Temé have cooperated in perfect harmony since time immemorial: they are respectively populated by farmers and by fishers, who could not survive without exchanging bread and fish.

Till one day, the head of Temé is taken by the desire to conquer other islands and plants a flag on the ground of Mada. War is imminent and inevitable.

Only the magic discovery of a child will bring back peace, with the help of an old wise man and of one, ten, one hundred whales.



pp. 143 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 15,90 • Hardback  
9788851152260

### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

**Roberto Piumini** was born in Edolo in 1947 (Brescia) and graduated in Pedagogy at the University of Milan. He soon started teaching and also acts as an actor and then devotes himself to writing full time and publishing very different books targeted primarily to a children audience. He also writes theatrical texts, songs, scripts, translations and rewrites in modern key literary works. He was awarded, among other prestigious prizes, the Andersen Prize in 1983 and Premio Cento in 1995. His practice with the theatre allows Piumini a great freedom of speech, which he can use with great refinement.



## Le ragazze non hanno paura 12+ *Girls aren't afraid*

Mario Brivio is thirteen and friendless, and the favorite target of bullies at school. His mother sends him on vacation in a small mountain village in northern Italy. She tells him he'll make friends there. In the village, he meets up with Tata, a beautiful and ruthless fourteen-year-old, and falls in love with her. Mario is drawn by her charisma, and along with two other girls, Laura and Jo, they become a formidable team. Up until the night of the tragedy. In the hurried flight following a clash with a rival gang, Laura falls into a ditch and dies. Her death signals the breakup of the group. Summer vacation is over, Mario says goodbye to Tata, perhaps forever. But three months later, the nightmare returns when Mario receives a letter. It's from Laura, but Laura is dead. It's a letter from hell. Tata and Jo seem to have received the same letter. The three of them meet up and go back to the woods where their summer had come to such a shocking end. But instead of solving the mystery, Mario discovers that Tata has a secret. Something he never would have imagined.



pp. 297 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 14,90 • Hardback with jacket  
9788851156442

### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

**Alessandro Ferrari** is a comic, cartoon and TV writer. In 2016 his graphic novel *Star Wars: the original trilogy* hit the bestseller list of the New York Times. Since 2006 he has collaborated with DeAgostini, The Walt Disney Company, Lucasfilm, Rainbow, Rai, Luxvide, Zodiak and Rizzoli/Lizard. This is his debut novel for middle grade readers.

## Il muro 8+ *The wall*

By Francesco D'Adamo

A contemporary and yet timeless story, an adventure which is a metaphor of the present social and political situation. A novel dealing with topical themes like racism, fear of the others and of otherness, and the hope in a world of brotherhood, without any barriers

The Wall is so tall that you barely see the top of it, so smooth that not even a lizard could climb it up and so long that nobody knows where it starts and where it ends up. Many people try to get past the Wall, even if it is not so clear what is on the other side. Almost all have come back telling scary and terrible stories as they hit the wall; of others there were no news, and maybe they made it, or maybe not. Who knows?

Miguel lives in a farmhouse far from the city, at the edge of the desert beyond which the Wall rises. He knows about the Wall and he sees the queues of desperate men trying to get on the other side, but he cannot care less about it. He has got a horse, a gun and all the freedom he can wish, from there to the horizon.

And then how could it happen that one day at dawn, after discovering those three sleeping among the sheep, he was persuaded to escort the girl through the desert, up to the Wall? Who brought him to that? And on top of that she goes with a small brat and with a goddam coyote, one of those that steal his sheep.

The Tren de la Muerte really exists, once a month it takes its load of children from Guatemala to the border of New Mexico.

The Wall does not exist, I made it up: imagine a wall that can divide two countries for kilometers and kilometers. And then who might come up with the idea of building such a wall?

### ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

**Francesco D'Adamo** debuted into YA in 1999: his novel *Storia di Iqbal* has become a literary case and is still, after many years since its publication, a success worldwide. His novels have been awarded the highest and most prestigious international prizes: Premio Cento and the American prize Christopher Awards.



pp. 160 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 13,90 • Hardback Cover  
9788851163082

**L'amore complicato 14+**  
*Love is complicated*

By Paola Zannoner

Love is complicated, it has his own rules. It can make you feel as light as a could and just a moment later crushed to the ground. No matter how complicated or absurd, it should never be humiliating or overbearing. Violent. And Caterina is going to learn it at her own expense.

Love has its own rules, but following them is not easy, because when you are in love the brain and the heart do not communicate. Catherine knows this well, she has just fallen in love with Marco, a beautiful, rebel and mysterious boy. She understands that he is not behaving with her as she should and that he is a little too mysterious, but she keeps on deluding herself that this is the perfect love story and forgiving her Prince Charming's unfriendly behavior. The ten rules to love, however, never lie, and in the end Catherine makes her decision. But Marco's reaction is unpredictable and upsets every rule.

A novel dealing with the role of girls and women in male-dominated world, where submission and violence are realities that cannot be ignored.



pp. 224 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 14,90 • hardcover with jacket  
9788851167684

**ABOUT THE AUTHORS:**

**Paola Zannoner** is a writer and a library consultant. Her literary production is substantial and covers different genres and themes, her target audience is very young people. Some of her novels are worldwide best sellers (Voglio Fare La Scrittrice, over 100.000 copies sold), many are long seller. She also publishes essays, short stories and novels for adults. Her novels have been awarded prestigious prizes such as Premio Strega, Ragazzi, Bancarellino, Premio Cento, Premio Sardegna and are translated into several languages.

**L'ultimo faro 14+**  
*The last lighthouse*

by Paola Zannoner

A beautiful lighthouse on the sea, and three weeks vacation. Fourteen young boys and girls are about to start a wonderful summer holiday. A summer of friendships, love affairs and even small disagreements Each of them has a different story, a hidden wound, a well kept secret. Yet they all have the same desire to start again to smile. And to share an unforgettable experience.

The last lighthouse is not only a unique opportunity to tell young people about the value of living together and of sharing, about mutual understanding beyond all the differences. It is above all an extraordinary choral novel. At the end of the holiday, every one offers his/her own story to the lighthouse.

“Lives are complex and they can be told only partially. This is why I did not believe much in the ability to narrate, to use the right words and to describe the state of minds, to freeze the exciting moments and describe pain or happiness. I did not think I, Lin, I would be the witness and the narrator of this story, of this holiday that changed my life. But talent is like a whale crouching in deep waters, that when it needs breathing, it glides fast towards the water surface, and jumps out of the water puffing like a bellows. It fixes you with curious eyes and looks up to you with courage, with wonder, to the bottom of its vision.”

**ABOUT THE AUTHORS:**

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pp. 368 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 14,90 • Hardback with jacket  
9788851147907



**MIA Series 8+**  
**Voglio fare la scrittrice**  
*I want to be a writer*

By Paola Zannoner

Mia, a thirteen years old girl, finds the secret diary she had lost years before with the account of her family life and adventures. This discovery rekindles her deepest aspiration: she has always wanted to be a writer. It is her own school that gives her the chance to stand out: a handful of students will be chosen to participate in a creative writing course.



pp. 400 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 10,90 • Paperback Cover  
9788851183370

**ABOUT THE AUTHORS:**

**Paola Zannoner** is a writer and a library consultant. Her literary production is substantial and covers different genres and themes, her target audience is very young people. Some of her novels are worldwide best sellers (*Voglio Fare La Scrittrice*, over 100.000 copies sold), many are long seller. She also publishes essays, short stories and novels for adults. Her novels have been awarded prestigious prizes such as Premio Strega, Ragazzi, Bancarellino, Premio Cento, Premio Sardegna and are translated into several languages.

**MIA Series 8+**  
**Voglio fare la giornalista**  
*I want to be a journalist*

By Paola Zannoner

Mia has grown up and has begun to write. Before engaging in writing novels though, she decides to start telling about real life by reporting news and information. She wants to be a journalist! Her “career” as an aspiring journalist mingles with her love story with Sean, which goes on among small ti s and mutual jealousy, reconciliations, projects and promises.



pp. 352 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 10,90 • Paperback Cover  
9788851174378

**MIA Series 8+**  
**Voglio fare l'innamorata**  
*I want to be in love*

By Paola Zannoner

The third episode of Mia's adventures starts when our fifteen years old main character decides to try and write a real love-story! During a vacation in an isolated country-house owned by Claudia, one of her mom's friend, Mia has a very special and unexpected surprise: she meets the ghost of Jane Austen, who will follow her first work as a novelist, giving her recommendations and tips about plot and characters that are really outside the nineteenth-century box! Of course Mia's imagination is too wild, and she won't do all that her teacher says...



pp. 352 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 10,90 • Paperback Cover  
9788851183370

**MIA Series 8+**  
**Voglio fare il cinema**  
*I want to do a movie*

By Paola Zannoner

What can you do when your best friend has an absurd idea in her head? Nothing but indulge her. And this is what happens to Mia, 14 years old and dreaming to become a writer, when her friend Jenny decides to shoot a movie. A real movie with a production, a director, a sound engineer, a costume designer and a casting for actors. And a movie star as main actor: Gabriele, the protagonist of the TV series A lawyer in the family. Jenny is in love with him and she is ready to do anything to get noticed.



pp. 304 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 10,90 • Paperback Cover  
9788851183394

**ABOUT THE AUTHORS:**

**Paola Zannoner** is a writer and a library consultant. Her literary production is substantial and covers different genres and themes, her target audience is very young people. Some of her novels are worldwide best sellers (Voglio Fare La Scrittrice, over 100.000 copies sold), many are long seller. She also publishes essays, short stories and novels for adults. Her novels have been awarded prestigious prizes such as Premio Strega, Ragazzi, Bancarellino, Premio Cento, Premio Sardegna and are translated into several languages.



**Rolling star.**  
**Come una stella che rotola 14+**  
***Love is complicated***

By Paola Zannoner

June 1968. Max is expected to visit his uncles' house in Sardegna and spend a few weeks of holidays. In fact he has a meeting with Bea and both take a train heading to France. They are not yet eighteen, they wear quirky dresses, and carry two bags with them and nothing else. But this is a special year: students are taking to the streets and have started riots in Paris, and even in Italy the wind of change is blowing for young people who are now the main players of the social scene. Max and Bea are two young hippies, preach love and peace, read Hermann Hesse and listen to Bob Dylan's songs. A powerful love story between a boy feeding his talent on curiosity, freedom and love and a girl who does not belong any more to women who were and lived in the shadow of men, but to the emancipated and independent girls who chose their partner and their personal achievements.



pp. 320 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 16,00 • hardback  
9788851161156

**ABOUT THE AUTHORS:**

**Paola Zannoner** is a writer and a library consultant. Her literary production is substantial and covers different genres and themes, her target audience is very young people. Some of her novels are worldwide best sellers (*Voglio Fare La Scrittrice*, over 100.000 copies sold), many are long seller. She also publishes essays, short stories and novels for adults. Her novels have been awarded prestigious prizes such as Premio Strega, Ragazzi, Bancarellino, Premio Cento, Premio Sardegna and are translated into several languages.

**Il mio cuore ti appartiene 14+**  
***My heart belongs to you***

by Alessio Puleo

“A story of pure love and great courage, genuine, faraway from clamours, to remind us that every event, even the most sorrowful and definite one, holds within the answers and a new incentive to start all over again” - Federico Moccia

There's a new entry in Ale's class, the beautiful and serious Ylenia. He is completely stunned by her, and tries his best to delight her: he acts as a very reliable guy, avoids staying out late with his friends and studies to advantage. But Ylenia guards an upsetting secret and, even though she feels the same way towards him, she decides to keep him away. After various emotional ups and downs, their love booms, dragged by a turn of events that will leave the reader speechless, where life and death face each other in a fierce conflict. A love story, touching and engaging until the very last page. A window inside a small-town teens' life, made of wishes, of dreams and naïvety.

“It's not easy, especially for young people, to question - on one's own accord - the matter of organ donation: it's related too much to that gloomy and unknowable event, that needs to be kept away from our thoughts.” This is what Ale thinks, desperate while watching his young love Ylenia, getting every day closer and closer to the end. “Why have you decided to sentence to death my Ylenia? What have I done to you? Is it really that hard to fill out a form? Does it take too much time? Is there a fee to it? Why are people like that?” Perhaps it's true, you need to experience it on your self, to completely understand.

This is what Alessio Puleo wants, through the simplicity of this story: to bring us inside and make us understand - with the mind and with the heart.”

- Mirella Mancuso (ODIA's national vicepresident).

**ABOUT THE AUTHORS:**

**Alessio Puleo**, born in 1981 in Carini (PA), writer and ex member of the Italian military corps, worked for many years in Palermo's Teatro Libero and is coauthor of *La mamma dei carabinieri* (Longanesi, 2010)



pp. 335 • 13,5 x 21 cm  
€ 16,00 • Hardback with jacket  
9788841879009

**100 incanti 10+**  
**100 spells**

Aurora is a girl like us. She attends the second year of middle school in Rome, where she lives with her parents and her brother, Francesco. Her life goes by like that of any other teenager living in this capital city, until when, on a Sunday in May, she opens the door of a very special bookshop which lets her step into a new reality. Fate makes her meet a nice granny with a ringing voice and Veronica, her “fairy godmother”, who will lead her before the lady sovereign of the magic world. “I propose you a deal” says the lady sovereign “you will be able to fulfil 100 wishes, 100 SPELLS, but only the hundredth one will be yours”. Aurora gets involved in a series of events which create unusual and unhoped-for situations and opportunities, and, spell after spell, her life starts to change.



pp. 336 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 10,90 • Paperback with jacket  
9788851150242

**ABOUT THE AUTHORS:**

**Erica Bertelegni** was born in Voghera in 1997. She made her successful debut as a writer at the age of 13 with *100 INCANTI* published by De Agostini (2011). She lives in a small town with her parents and her beloved Dalmatian dog. She loves reading, writing, playing her guitar Penelope and swim in the “still waters” of her swimming pool to relax body and mind.

**La chiave dell'amicizia 10+**  
**The key to friendship**

Vanessa is stubborn and self-confident: she always knows what she wants. Anya is shy and clumsy: she gets always in troubles. They could not be more different, nor dislike each other more. But on their first day at high school, they both end up in punishment to polish off and recatalog the whole school library. Suddenly something unexpected happens: a door opens upon removal of a book. The door opens onto a magic world and Vanessa and Anya fall into the wonderful Realm of Menish, which is disappearing due to the advance of sands. Only the power of two extraordinary girls can save it. And yet Anya and Vanessa do not hold any special power, or at least this is what they believe: to discover it, they need first to get to know and help each other. Among duels and tricks, a fantastic adventure on a flying dragon will bring hope back to the Realm of Menish.



pp. 512 • 14 x 21 cm  
€ 14,90 • Hardback with jacket  
9788851150440

**ABOUT THE AUTHORS:**

**Erica Bertelegni** was born in Voghera in 1997. She made her successful debut as a writer at the age of 13 with *100 INCANTI* published by De Agostini (2011). She lives in a small town with her parents and her beloved Dalmatian dog. She loves reading, writing, playing her guitar Penelope and swim in the “still waters” of her swimming pool to relax body and mind.



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