

## FRANKFURT 2023 RIGHTS LIST

### FICTION

ALVISE TRISCIUZZI (writer)  
THE DEATH OF LAMBRUSCO (Forthcoming for Newton Compton, 2024)

Forthcoming  
cover



A small town in the Lower Po Valley is the setting of a string of misdemeanors: Lambrusco, the village drunk and ex-partisan, ends up with his head smashed; his old friend Arturo Bonomi (mustachioed and bittersweet marshal of the Carabinieri) and Alessandro Peruzzi (perfectionist coroner) are investigating the case, helped by a hotchpotch of officers and passerbys, some hopelessly clumsy, others more smart. The story, set in the 1960s, unfolds between memories of World War II and the memory of a vanished peasant world all under the gaze of a small statue of the Madonna near which Lambrusco's lifeless body was found. Reconstructing the story of his life and of their friendship, Bonomi recalls invading troops and alleged allies going treasure hunting during the War. Was Lambrusco killed for that phantom treasure? Or is there some other secret in his life that no one knows about? The solution will come only by listening to the stories of the inhabitants of that small town, made up of thugs and informers which (according to their beliefs) swear against God or become newborn Catholics; former fascists and communists, con men, fickle former partisans prisoners of war, bullies, busybodies and teachers. As it has always been, all over the world.

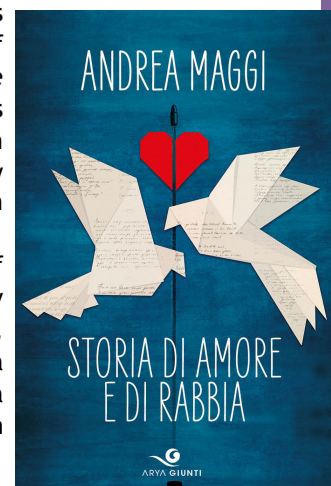
### YOUNG ADULT, MIDDLE GRADE

ANDREA MAGGI (teacher and writer, TV personality, see separate infosheet)

STORY OF LOVE AND ANGER  
(Giunti Arya, 2022)

Ibra Diawara, seventeen years old, was born in Italy to Senegalese parents. He lives in a run down neighborhood of a small town in north-east of Italy, where a gang of young drug dealers of Macedonian origin, who have their headquarters in the infamous "Albanian park", is the boss. Ibra had a difficult childhood: he lost his mother as a little child and his father Omar forced him to attend a primary school in Senegal to rediscover his true origins. But there too, just as in Italy, his new classmates made him feel different because he was born and lived in Italy, just as in Italy he was discriminated because he was born of Senegalese parents.

Ibra's resentment for the world has grown out of all proportion, to the point of convincing him that love and friendship are deceptive feelings. But someone will try to challenge his disillusionment, a good-natured and generous classmate named Ana, the twin sister of Valon, the fearsome leader of the Albanian gang. Soon Ibra and Ana will find themselves in a very complicated situation: Alessandro, the son of Tiziana Rossi, Ibra and Ana's Italian teacher, owns Valon a lot of money, and Ibra's cousin



Souleymane forms his own gang to oppose Valon... Will Ana and Ibra be able to free themselves from the burdens that oppress them and achieve the longed-for happiness?

A sort of West Side story that investigates the nature of the “bad boys” of today’s Italy, where every identity boundary is blurred and where evil has deep origins, but never innate to the human soul.



**ANDREA MAGGI** (teacher and writer, TV personality, see separate infosheet)

**YOU CAN COUNT ON YOUR HEART**

(GIUNTI editore, 2021, YA fiction) 6000 copies sold

RIGHTS SOLD IN TURKEY AND RUSSIA

In a small high school in Italy, professor Elpidi’s class is composed mostly of presumptuous, disillusioned student. Among them there is Valentina, who is eager to become a famous beauty vlogger; Renzo, a street dancer; Paola, who feels trapped in a life programmed by her parents. One thing all these teenagers have in common: they don’t know who they are, so they don’t have the slightest idea about what to do in the future.

Professor Roberto Elpidi tries to explain Socrates’ exhortation, “Get to know yourself”, in a completely original way: he organizes a retreat in a remote mountain refuge, where they will all live together for a whole month in close contact with nature. They will have to learn to settle their differences and live in community without counting on wi-fi, cell phones or any other modern convenience.

A book both entertaining and thought-provoking, that speaks to young people in their language about their fragility.

Forthcoming  
cover

**ANDREA MAGGI** (teacher and writer, TV personality, see separate infosheet)

**MY FRIEND SOCRATES (TITLE IN PROGRESS)**

Forthcoming for GIUNTI

Veronica, fourteen years old, is a real rebel. She hates school, can’t stand her classmates and teachers. She hates constraints, rules and prohibitions. She buys what she wants thanks to the bitcoins that a mysterious employer deposits in her Wallet as compensation for a secret and illegal activity.

Every day for Veronica is a battle against the world. Life has subjected her to very hard tests, ever since her father abandoned the family when she was very young. Her mother has struggled to make it in her work, but has

neither the time nor the strength to look after such a turbulent daughter, who unbeknownst to her is suspended for the future of her maths teacher's mobile phone and spied on by a mysterious stalker. In this critical phase of her life, Veronica runs into a strange old man who says his name is Socrates. Just like the Athenian philosopher of antiquity, this strange old man demolishes every certainty of his interlocutor through dialectics, helping her to find the true meaning of important words such as good, justice, freedom and truth. With him Veronica loses herself in long discussions, during which the old man, through Socratic 'maieutics', helps her to find the courage to look inside herself, to find an answer to the question of questions: who am I? The solution to all her problems lies at the bottom of that difficult answer.

## NON-FICTION

**ANDREA MAGGI (teacher and writer, TV personality, see separate infosheet)**



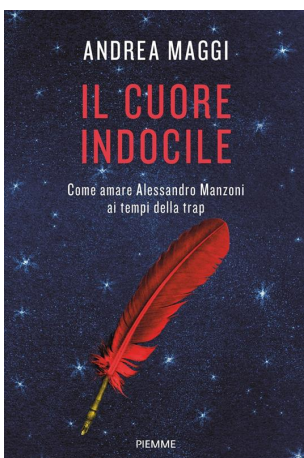
**EVERYBODY PASSES!**

(Feltrinelli editore, 2021)

All the secrets, tips and anti-panic remedies to enjoy school to the fullest.

What is school for? Why do you need to study? Why waste time on so many "useless" subjects?

What are the verbs that every student should know how to decline to perfection? "To study" and "to learn"? Maybe even before that, "to start", "to fail" and "to improve". That's right; if in life you never stop learning, in school you never stop starting! But every beginning also brings with it several doubts and fears, especially when you have to deal with teachers, classmates and new subjects. In this book you will find hints, tips and secrets to help you get by in every situation, from essays to oral tests, from home study to exam preparation. You will learn how to tame Foscolo's poems with true rock star spirit and how to surf D'Annunzio's poems. Together, we will discuss how best to deal with mishaps such as bad marks and difficulties with classmates, so that you can gain self-confidence and achieve the most important goal of all: to handle and/or prevent school anxiety step by step, right up to promotion!.



**THE INDOCILE HEART. HOW TO LOVE ALESSANDRO MANZONI IN THE TIME OF THE TRAP (Piemme, 2021)**

A sui generis introduction to one of the most studied and 'hated' writers of the Italian school: Alessandro Manzoni, author of the famous classic *The Betrothed*-

Before being an author, Alessandro Manzoni was a man of flesh and blood, just like us. Throughout his existence, he rejoiced and suffered, laughed and cried, became angry, fell in love, despondent and consoled. He lived long enough to meditate with great insight on this strange thing we call life, and his thoughts flowed into his works. Alessandro Manzoni was not always just a portrait printed in a school book with four facts to learn for a question. On the contrary, he is alive and resembles us more than we can imagine. Shy and angry like many rappers, creative, destructive and brilliant like a rock star, Alessandro Manzoni is definitely one of us.

**PIERO RUZZANTE, and ANTONIO MARTINI (historians and writers)**

**YET THE WIND STILL BLOWS. THE LAST DAYS OF ENRICO BERLINGUER**

(UTET, 2020)

The book reconstructs the last days of Enrico Berlinguer - one of the most popular and beloved Italian politicians of the 21st century - up to his tragic death, after his last rally in Piazza dei Frutti in Padua and his funeral in Piazza San Giovanni in Rome. It was the most attended funeral in the history of Italy.

In 2021 the book was judged the best text in the biographies category by the literary circles of Repubblica's Robinson magazine.



As soon as it came out, it jumped straight to the top of the list of best-selling political texts, and is still among the best-selling books in this category on the major online platforms.

## BACKLIST

### YOUNG ADULT



ANDREA MAGGI (teacher and writer, TV personality, see separate infosheet)

**A WAR AGAINST PROFS!** Leonardo Damiani and Sister Bernardina's Miracle  
(Feltrinelli editore, 2019, middle-grade fiction)

Leonardo goes to secondary school, and enjoys inventing pranks, such as throwing a dog at the postman and adding laxative to the teachers' coffee. He doesn't like studying, and he is always playing videogames. But one day Leonardo becomes himself the target of a prank, and in trying to fix the damage he meets the almost centenary nun Bernardina, a distant relative. The old lady will prove extremely funny and, against all odds, the two will become close friends. Bernardina will eventually help Leonardo to solve his problems once and for all.

### YOUNG ADULT, NON FICTION

#### RESPECTING RULES. INSTRUCTIONS TO GROW RESPONSIBLE AND HAPPY PEOPLE

(Feltrinelli editore 2019)

Sometimes our children's arrogance, aggressivity and apathy are symptoms of a great disorientation. The life which awaits them will be rich in complexity, accidents and frustrations: how can we protect and prepare them? In the face of their children's failures, many parents side with them regardless, thus mining the authority of teachers and educators, and increasing their children's weakness. In this scenery, it is crucial to make rules matter again, in order to help our children to build their self-consciousness, and to face with courage and self-discipline the challenges of life.

Maggi provides an essential guide, rigorous but full of sensibility, to help boys and girls to do the choices that are better for them, making them self-confident and happy citizens.



### BOOKS ABOUT ROCK MUSIC

RENZO STEFANEL (rock critic for online and print papers, author of several books on rock music)

for GIUNTI: paperback edition of the 2 SEX & DRUGS assembled, with new chapters

**SEX & DRUGS & KICKS IN THE TEETH** (Giunti editore, 2015, 7000 copies sold) In the sixty-plus years of its history, rock music stole to blues the reputation of "devil's music", with an endless series of murky stories, and lives devoted to recklessness, excess and madness. This book is a selection of 40 terrifying and disturbing stories, brilliantly told by the author: Keith Moon and Iggy Pop's crazy deeds; Hank Williams' and Sid Vicious' desperate death; Syd Barrett, Peter Green and Brian Wilson losing their mind; the sagas of depravation by the Led Zeppelin; AJ Weberman, the man who wanted to free Dylan from himself; and Charles Manson, who was an ambitious singer before becoming a ruthless murderer.

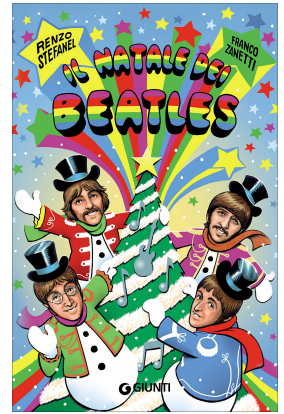
**MORE SEX, DRUGS AND KICKS IN THE TEETH. MORE STORIES FROM THE DARK SIDE OF ROCK'N'ROLL** (Ancora sesso, droga e calci in bocca.) (Giunti, september 2017)

This book, which can be defined the most serious and comprehensive essay ever published on the dark side of rock, is an incredible mix of entertainment, historic research, understatement and





sound rock-journalism. Here there is no place for urban legends: all stories are based on a serious investigation built on hundreds of books and articles. “Sex, drugs and rock and roll” may be a rather unfair simplification, but it sure is a truthful one. At one point in its history, rock stole the title of “Devil’s music” right from blues music’s hands. This accomplishment was achieved thanks to an incredibly long series of shady stories (fishy sex affairs and the like), reckless lives, excess and madness - all thanks to their heroes. This is in fact a collection of forty stories that are at the same time terrible, disturbing and exciting. From Elvis and Iggy Pop’s insanities to Oasis’ violent fights, from Ozzy Osbourne’s depravity to Roky Erickson’s lunacy, from the many transgressions of The Rolling Stones (whose importance is indisputable) to Bob Dylan and Lou Reed’s dark side - this book is about them all. These uncensored stories are about resourceful girls and fragile, narcissistic men. An example? The one time Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin and Jim Morrison got together, but with different plans in mind: Jimi had sex with Janis, Jim tried it as well, but with the only result of getting a bottle thrown at him.



**THE BEATLES’ CHRISTMAS** (Giunti editore, 2017 co-author: Franco Zanetti) offers a strange and curious glance at the history of the Fab Four, picking a dozen joyful, dramatic or funny true stories, set in the heart of winter, Christmas, New Year and surroundings, from the Fifties to the end of the Sixties.

The Beatles who work like slaves at the Cavern and are expelled from Germany because they do not comply with work permits; their audition with Decca on 1st January 1962 (they are rejected!); they become famous and for two Christmases in a row they organize a “Beatles Christmas Show” in which they sing, play and act; in Christmas 1967 are filming a TV movie that will be a major failure, “Magical Mystery Tour”. The book is complete with a rich appendix with lists of Christmas songs performed by the Fab Four or dedicated to them, the Beatles records in the Christmas charts from 1963 to 1969 and the description of the “Christmas Records” that the Beatles prepared every year for their fan club, with the translation of the original cover letters.

## FICTION

**CARLO CALLEGARI** (writer, author of THE GANG OF THREE series, movie out now)

**HOLIDAYS IN CORTINA. THE GANG OF THREE** (Fanucci, fall 2020)

The Gang of Three gathers once again to enjoy a relaxing mid-August holiday in the Italian mountains. As a destination they choose the most exclusive resort of the Dolomites: Cortina d’Ampezzo. Tony “the Dwarf”, Claudio Bambola and Silvano Magagnin “the Boa” are with their girlfriends and children.

But a leopard can’t change its spots, and our heroes aren’t able to stay out of trouble: the holiday soon turns into an intricate investigation during which they meet Ida, a brisk-mannered and fearless journalist.

Soon they will understand that the truth is far more twisted than either of them could ever have imagined... And so between Cortina, Ibiza and Milan, unlikely funerals, shady carpentries and plans that fail miserably, the epilogue will be as fierce as it is unexpected.

Packed with heart-pounding action, *Holidays in Cortina* is also full of humor and boundless invention: a gripping and surprising reading.

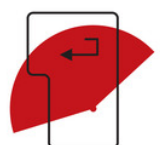


**THE LING GAO GANG** (LINEA edizioni, 2020)

One of the most popular e-commerce platforms in the world has been mysteriously robbed of over 100 million dollars. But those who have been robbed certainly do not sit idle and counterattack by putting a bounty of the same value on the heads of thieves: a great opportunity for any web security agency. Thus begins the story of Carlo, Lars, Poppe and Ling Gao, four friends who decide to get together to take part in this digital treasure hunt. It is a great opportunity to stop doing illegal jobs for a living. Soon, however, the hunt moves from the pc screens to the road, and becomes a journey across the old continent - an adventure on the road, between comedy and action, where the protagonists have to exorcise their fears, to put their friendship at test and to run faster and faster toward an unexpected final.

The Ling Gao Gang was born.

La Ling Gao Gang  
Carlo Callegari



**RENATO DE ROSA (journalist and writer)**  
**OSVALDO, THE ALGORITHM OF GOD (Carbonio, summer 2020, 1000 copies sold and reprinted)**

«When will I see a machine that thinks like a human being? And what will it tell me?»

Such questions have always accompanied the orderly and rational existence of Dario, a young Tuscan researcher, expert on artificial intelligence. But one day, his research group came across a strange website, [tidounconsiglio.com](http://tidounconsiglio.com), which seems capable not only to provide answers to any practical question, but also to distinguish between right and wrong, good and evil. Soon Dario and his colleagues begin to turn obsessively to 'Oswaldo' – the name of the mysterious and omniscient software behind the website – before taking any decision. But when uncanny coincidences and dangerous accidents begin to occur, what started as a game turns into a heart-stopping thriller... A sparkling novel, full of memorable and funny characters, which tackles one of the most controversial themes in the relationship between man and technology: free will.



**CARBONIO EDITORE**

**MARILENA RENDA (poet and essayist)**

**PRESENTS FOR GHOSTS (GEM/Mesogea, winter 2016/7)**

**Shortlisted Biblioteche di Roma prize 2017**



An intriguing story, told in a very poetic and resonant prose, about two orphaned sisters from Sicily. They lost their parents in a plane accident and Elena, who moved to Northern Italy as a teacher, goes back to Palermo in order to take care of her younger sister Vittoria who is deaf and lives with their aunt. Elena goes to a school to learn sign language, and Vittoria is the main character of their little world, with her antics and her unconscious grace. Palermo is an eerie city teeming with strange characters, where the two sisters used to live in an enchanted atmosphere when they were children, but now it looks more like something unreal. In school Elena makes some friends, young unemployed people like her. When Giacomo, the teacher, decides to stage a play, he chooses Vittoria as the leading actress. And it is with Vittoria that Dario, Elena's friend and leading actor, falls in love. Again, Elena is in the backdrop.

**DAVIDE GOLIN**

**PABLITO MON AMOUR (coming of age novel about soccer, NoReply 2011)**

In describing this novel, names such as Nicolò Ammaniti, Nick Hornby, Irvine Welsh have been mentioned. It is the brilliant debut of Davide Golin in which Italy in the transition period between the 70s and 80s is described with an effervescent pop aesthetic against the backdrop of a vital pastime: the national passion for football and in particular, the amazing and controversial career of Paolo Rossi "Pablito", the man "who made Brazil cry" with a hat-trick, bringing victory to Italy in 1982 World Cup.

The novel is a heady mix of sport, music, suburbia, sex, politics and television imagery that hooks the reader from the start and leaves one breathless with anticipation. The writer manages to pull off an expert balancing act between sharp irony and nostalgia, never veering towards sappy sentimentality. He masterfully mixes peaks and troughs, comedy and tragedy, all delightfully flavored with sociological snippets, ultimately creating what is a fascinating generational novel. A compelling work which has been talked about as last year's literary popular Italian newspaper Gazzetta dello Sport, listed the book among the four best novels of 2011 in its year-end poll, next to works by blockbuster names of current literature such as Giorgio Faletti and Stefano Benni.

*"A wonderful journey through the unique life of a football star and a boy who one day asked him for an autograph."* M. Crosetti, La Repubblica

*"A brilliant novel about football. But a brilliant novel about Italy actually."* G. Padovan, Il Fatto

*"A beautiful novel, worthy of an Ammaniti"*. M. Marani, Guerin Sportivo

*"One of the most entertaining stories of the year"*. C. Lenzi, Sport Week

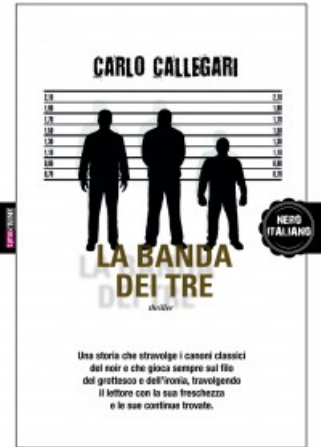


**THRILLER AND PULP**

**CARLO CALLEGARI**

**LA BANDA DEI TRE (The gang of three) (Fanucci Time Crime 2013)**  
11.000 copies printed, 4000 sold in 3 months, movie out now  
(pulp comedy, first of a series)

Claudio Bambola is an undercover narcotics agent in Padua. After two years of hard work he is about to complete a historical drug bust that could finally allow him to change his life: the abduction of a consignment of twenty kilos of pure cocaine. But in the exchange of the lot a gang of Russian mobsters intrudes, and in order to survive he will be forced to seek help from Tony Piccolo, a dwarf drug dealer and gunslinger, and Silvano aka "Boa", a former drug addict now burglar and reborn Catholic. In a swirling series of events and twists, the gang of three will be involved in grotesque car chases and shootouts, with the background of an underground Padua by night. A fast and dynamic story twisting the classic thriller plot, and always playing on the edge of grotesque and irony, overwhelming the reader with its freshness and its gags. For lovers of Joe Lansdale and the like.



### IL RITORNO DEI TRE (The Return of The Gang Of Three) (Fanucci 2014) 800 copies

It's been two years since the daring escape from Padua and the gang of three seems to have finally found some peace of mind. Silvano is a cook in a monastery, Claudio and Tony are running a newspaper kiosk in Tuscany. But their peace is only apparent. After receiving an unexpected visit in the farm where they live, the two will be forced to go back to Padua and square the accounts once and for all with a disruptive past that has suddenly resurfaced. This time the life of a young girl used as a bargaining chip will be at stake. As usual, with grotesque moments, violent scenes worth of a thriller movie and flashes of humanity, the gang of three will get to know a host of new odd characters. A nymphomaniac hairdresser who is a loanshark, a lap dance bar manager nicknamed the Moth Man and a bunch of circus clowns are side by side with our heroes in a black comedy where gunshots are combined with surreal gags and dialogues. The most bizarre trio in thriller books is back.

### Carlo CALLEGARI and Francesco DOMINEDÒ

#porvenir #selfie #cuoremio (#porvenir #selfie #lovey), LaCase Books, 2014

An Italian on the road comedy set in the July sun, a voice coming out of a car, the same stretch of highway for many people who, unknowingly, share emotions and moments of their lives. #porvenir, the future is happening when you drive miles of road. The Lives of Others are seen between the highway and traffic jams: brief accidental contacts with other lives. Nodes intersecting at the speed of snapshots scattered in a forgotten social network. Ephemeral #selfies, polaroids tracing people and characters. The kid Niccolò is traveling with his father and grandmother, they're going to a First Communion ceremony. They meet a whole bunch of hilarious characters engaged in all sorts of semi-legal deeds. They all share a stop at a motorway café, a few miles of highway, a slice of life, dreams, emotions, fears and laughter. #porvenir is the unfocused gaze of a child on a series of lives that shoot past him, on stories somehow crossing his path. It is an unusual point of view to tell a modern tale that reinterprets and updates many ideas of the great classic Italian comedy, revealing a society of monsters, vices, virtues and feelings.

