

# edizioni **spartaco**

## Edizioni Spartaco

Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Italy

<http://www.edizionispartaco.com/foreign-rights/>

*Edizioni Spartaco is a small independent publisher, founded in 1995.*

*In 2003 our perspective changed and we decided to enter the national market, by creating two new series: in the first ("La campana") we publish essays about history of Southern Italy. The second series ("Il risveglio") contains historical-political books of libertarian inspiration, welcoming reflections and experiences regarding power and the various ways to oppose it and to reach autonomy, with a critical, un-authoritarian and un-rhetorical attitude.*

*The main feature of this series is the complete independence from the literary genre: in this series, we have political pamphlets, classical works of anarchists, journalistic writings and articles, reportages, satires and travel accounts. Other feature of this series is the "combined" presence - even in the same book, as author and editor or translator - of important writers (such as Dos Passos, Tolstoj, Twain, Silone, Levi, Malatesta and Lafargue), young Italian writers and scholars in what we call "intergenerational agreement". In this series we also have a little "library" of Feminism (Maria Lacerda, Flora Tristan, Mary Wollstonecraft, Jane Addams, Vera Brittain, Marie Louise Berneri, Malwida von Meysenbug). Now, the two series of essays and non-fiction come together in a new series, with a new format and a new graphic structure: I Saggi.*

*In 2005 we have created a series of fiction, "Dissensi": the "dissidence" we want to deal with is political dissidence, wherever they show and in whatever regime (democratic, too) it finds a reason to exist, but also social or relational dissidence (as reaction to conformism, family disagreements, etc.).*

Represented by



I libri: una passione che accomuna nonno e nipote. Il primo tipografo linotipista, il secondo scrittore ed editore. Ma quando Andrea va a trovare l'anziano ricoverato e in fin di vita si rende conto che, con lui, sta per perdere anche la sua storia che da anni si era ripromesso di scrivere. E così gli tocca fare i conti con i ricordi. Aneddoti singolari e vicende comuni, che tuttavia hanno lo stupore e la potenza dello straordinario. Le bravate da ragazzo del nonno. La fuga rocambolesca dalla guerra. La minaccia di fucilazione da parte di nazifascisti e partigiani e poi la salvezza. La sorprendente vittoria alla Lotteria durante il boom degli anni Sessanta. Il lungo e doloroso addio alla compagna di tutta una vita. Nel mezzo, circa cinquant'anni a comporre libri con la sua linotype, l'odore di piombo, una precisione maniacale e quella volta che Cesare Pavese montò su tutte le furie...

Un racconto, quello di Andrea Malabaila, in equilibrio tra nostalgia e dolcezza, capace di strappare risate e lacrime, drammatico e leggero insieme, che irradia calore familiare e procede a doppio passo: passato e presente corrono su due binari che alla fine convergono in una parola. Futuro.

**Il prete ebreo (The Jewish priest)**

**Mariastella Eisenberg**

**Pages: 150**

*"The seductive prose of Eisenberg  
Is involving and passionate" - Il Mattino*



*“Mariastella Eisenberg excites the reader for the immediacy of the images, the agile and never rhetorical prose” - La Repubblica*

Simone, born in Romania at the beginning of the twentieth century by a young Jewish woman from a good family, is abandoned in the orphanage of an Orthodox monastery. In Lyon, still a child, he discovers he has been adopted; he was circumcised but he is baptized and sent to the seminary. Here he stays until his priestly ordination. He knows the atrocities of the Second World War and becomes a resistance fighter. He meets Fra Giacinto and chooses to become a friar. He goes to Rome and begins to study the mysterious Bible of Lyon, in the odor of heresy: he is unconsciously looking for himself. The meeting with Joséphine, the biological daughter of the adoptive parents, is explosive: Simone is no longer alone. The

woman, however, is married and mother, must return to Canada where she had taken refuge to escape Nazi hatred, so they will have to separate. Simone decides to leave for Israel. By now old, he will finally know his origins and decide to entrust his story to Miriam, his niece. The story, told in the first person, takes the reader into the intimate world of the «Jewish priest»: a confession that explores the human soul, delving deeper into low instincts and nobler feelings. The constant, frantic, desperate search for one's own identity is the main theme of the novel; feeling inadequate, out of place, not up to the standards dictated by society is the state that makes the protagonist a real person.

**Mariastella Eisenberg** was born in Naples from a Romanian Jewish doctor of German ethnicity, graduated in Montpellier and sheltered in Italy because of racial laws. Her mother was a young Neapolitan pianist. Former teacher and head teacher, since 2004 she has dedicated herself to writing and social commitment. In 2016 she published the novel *Il tempo fa “il suo mestiere”* by Edizioni Spartaco, which took her around Italy for presentations in bookstores, schools and associations. In 2018 she published the novel *“Il prete ebreo”*: the protagonist is Simone, a character already present in the novel *“Il tempo fa il suo mestiere”*.



**Bisesto**  
**Andrea Vismara**  
**Pages: 256**

*“The whole world in the stories of Vismara” - Il Mattino*

*“Vismara tells this way, with attractive simplicity, the events and the feelings of his intense characters” - La Repubblica*

Do you like playing, Flavio? A simple question but the woman who asks is the Death in person, treacherous and beautiful, after a wild night of love. Kidda, aka Flavio Toso, is the bassist of the new wave group La Carcasse Dansant: in his veins alcohol flows because his hopes are betrayed. He is going to reunite the rock band for an evening revival on the thirtieth anniversary of the only album released in the 1980s. On the book of destiny, for a fatal error, there is a name too many: the macabre challenge starts from Venice and Kidda will have to be faster than one of his mysterious antagonist in interpreting puzzles. The clues are scattered around the cemeteries of the Serenissima, of Rome, Milan, Genova, Florence. There are only a few days to the Carnival, the deadline for escaping or kicking the bucket. Guided by unthinkable spirit animals like black butterflies and swarms of mosquitoes, this middle-aged, self-deprecated and crazy rocker will meet excellent dead men, from Helenio Herrera to Basaglia, from Trilussa to Gassman, from Toscanini to Manzoni, from Artusi to Collodi, from De André to Govi. Vismara's pen draws the reader into a thriller with Gothic tones but clear: a contemporary *“The Master and Margarita”* by Mikhail Bulgakov.

**Andrea Vismara** (Roma 1965) Musician and composer, he played in various groups in the Roman underground and worked in the most famous rock clubs. He attended the Higher Institute of Photography and exhibited his photographs in solo and group exhibitions, publishing in magazines and newspapers. In 2014 he published his first successful novel *“Iddu. Ten lives for the god of fire”* (Edizioni Spartaco, 2014). He lives and writes between Empoli and Venice.

Mariastella Eisenberg

**Il tempo fa  
il suo mestiere**

### **Il tempo fa il suo mestiere**

**Mariastella Eisenberg**

**Pages: 288**

**Bestseller**

Sara is a restless teenager. She is only sixteen when, one morning at the end of February, she meets Giuseppe, a quiet boy. They fall in love. Nine months later two twins were born, a curse for those born in Moldova. An infant, Tobia, is passed off as the son of Sara's parents; the other, Simone, is first entrusted to the care of an orphanage, then he is adopted by a French couple who leads him to Lione. Synthesis of many genres - novel, testimony, denunciation - "Il tempo fa il suo mestiere" is a family saga based on guilty silences, speechless rancor, solid feelings. In our days, in Jerusalem, a city sacred to Jews, Christians and Muslims, all knots of this moving story will be untied. It begins in 1912 in Romania and it finds its development in the 1950s in Italy, in the magic Gulf of Naples. Two world wars overwhelm the old continent and millions of human beings, during and after conflicts, have to deal with all the sins of the world. «Death was "a German teacher", but it had a zealous

Romanian apprentice. Even today in Romania all this is silenced and distorted, more than it is admitted». These are the words of Nobel Prize winner Herta Müller. Mariastella Eisenberg tells about the Rosenbergs, a Jewish family of German ethnicity, through the torments of the twentieth century. And so she does with her own style, with "incisive images, quick and never verbose prose" (la Repubblica).

**Mariastella Eisenberg** was born in Naples from a Romanian Jewish doctor of German ethnicity, graduated in Montpellier and sheltered in Italy because of racial laws, and a young Neapolitan pianist. Former teacher and head teacher, since 2004 she has dedicated herself to writing and social commitment. In 2016 she published the novel "Il tempo fa il suo mestiere" by Edizioni Spartaco, which took her around Italy for presentations in bookstores, schools and associations. In 2018 she published the novel "Il prete ebreo": the protagonist is Simone, a character already present in the novel "Il tempo fa il suo mestiere".

Raffaele Alliegro

**Il segreto di Bruto**

### **Il segreto di Bruto (Brutus's secret)**

**Raffaele Alliegro**

**Pages: 239**

**Bestseller**

Lucius Iunius Brutus and Marcus Iunius Brutus. Two stories, one destiny: freedom and democracy for Rome, to which they sacrificed their lives. In 509 BC, Lucius Iunius Brutus dethroned the last king, the Etruscan Tarquinius the Superb. Marcus Iunius Brutus, five hundred years later, in 44 BC, was among the conspirators who killed Caesar. Lucius Iunius Brutus pretended to be stupid to survive the fury of Tarquinius Superbus. He took revenge by cultivating the germ of rebellion. He exiled the tyrant, he founded the Republic, he was the first Consul of Rome in 509 BC. He was the predestined of the Sibylline Books. The oracle of Delphi revealed to him the present and future of a Rome divided between two souls: the Roman one: inflexible, honest, proud, primitive; and the Etruscan one: commercial, modern, refined, corrupt. Brutus knew that the village on the bank of the Tiber was destined to become Caput Mundi, becoming the most powerful war machine ever in existence. So Lucius Iunius Brutus triggered the democratic uprising, which exploded after the rape of Lucretia by one

of the sons of the king. She killed herself for honor.

Lucius Iunius Brutus was an unyielding Consul: he decapitated two of his sons, because they confessed to having plotted against the Res Publica. He fell into battle but he knew that, hundreds of years later, a descendant would gather his witness, that Marcus Iunius Brutus who conspired against Julius Caesar, at the Ides of March 44 BC. On traces by Titus Livius in *Ab Urbe condita*, Raffaele Alliegro makes characters and events flow, with a perfect synthesis of historically verified facts and a coherent invention: he restores an authentic climate of passions and feelings that develop life of mankind, today as yesterday and tomorrow.

**Raffaele Alliegro**, journalist. Born in Naples in 1961, he lives in Tivoli and works in Rome as editor-in-chief in the daily *Il Messaggero*. He also published "Fate changes in three moments. Small stories of great rebellions" (2013).



**Le pergamene di Sertorio (Sertorius' parchments)**  
**Nelson Martinico**  
**Pages: 384**

*«One of the greatest men if not the best in Rome»*  
*Mommsen*  
*«A real paladin of democracy»*  
*Plutarco*

Traiano calls Plutarch to the imperial palace: in Spain, in Osca, some precious parchments were found. They were written by his own hand by the orator and leader Quinto Sertorio. The emperor instructs the Greek writer to put order in those documents, extending and lending, to return dignity to a great man of State condemned by Silla to oblivion.

And so, through his autobiography, Sertorio recounts the dramatic and fascinating events of his life: the bond with his mother Reia in Nursia, rigid education, studies, friendship with Marco Perperna and Marco Irtuleo, burning love for Flavia, the success as orator in the Capital. Famous vicissitudes and episodes of public life intertwine, in the background of a Rome split between popular and aristocratic people.

With the dictatorship of Silla, Sertorio passes over the Alps and Pyrenees and he goes to the Ispania, the land of his maternal ancestors. Right here the hero of Aquae Sextiae, blind in one eye, acclaimed by the people as a new Annibale, will become a rebel against Rome.

History, legend and literary invention merge into a fascinating book.

Extremely actual character, Quinto Sertorio in the Iberian countries is still considered a national hero and he is subject of essays and tales.

It is time for this figure to be rediscovered all over the world.

**Nelson Martinico** (alias of Giuseppe Elio Ligotti), lives between Rome, Umbria and Trapani. After the onset with Bompiani, he published for Edizioni Spartaco "Transitive Property" (2015), conwritten with his son Federico Ligotti.



**Toringrad**  
**Darien Levani**  
**Pages: 176**

*“An exciting thriller set in the world of Albanian mob, written with a sharp, fluid and captivating style.”*

*Fahrenheit RADIO RAI TRE*

*“An honest, vivid novel that is able to picture a hidden world.”*

*The Italian newspaper Il Fatto Quotidiano*

Drini, an Albanian former student of History, after having accumulated a fair amount in the world of cocaine distribution, at 29 he settles in Turin where he runs a very swish bar. He chooses to call it Toringrad. But when his brother-in-law, Petrit, is arrested shortly before Christmas, family affairs require his presence to complete the delivery of a *white lady's* cargo. It will be a difficult and risky journey, with raids in the world of Italian subproletariat made up of prostitution, slot machines, drug addiction. The journey will lead him to Milan. But he has also to find the traitor. Suspects fall on the buyer, Envèr. If he was, he will have to pay with his life. But the truth has never been given, as Drini will have to find out at his own expense. *Toringrad* is a rough and direct novel as its protagonist, shiny and cool drug dealer but with an ethics. He will remain loyal to himself and his destiny.

**Darien Levani** (Fratar 1982) lives and works in Ferrara. Already author of award-winning novels in Albania, his country, he has received several literary awards, including the "Nuto Revelli" and "Pietro Conti" prizes. Always engaged in the cultural promotion of the Albanian community in Italy, he is vice principal of the newspaper *Albania News* (online).

**Gli altri fantasmi (The other ghosts)**  
**Maurizio de Giovanni**



**Pages: 72**  
**Bestseller**

*“I walk for hours, under rain or sun, cold or heat. I walk through roads that I don't know, brushing by hurried people, laden with packages and thoughts, and I can't believe that they don't understand, that they don't stop in front of me, their hand on the mouth, their eyes wide open on the abyss of my suffering. But is it not clear in my gaze? Is it not clear in my features, in my dirty hair, in my wrongly buttoned shirt? In my neglected beard, in my bags under the eyes, in my untied shoes?”*

In the detective novels written by Maurizio de Giovanni, ghosts reveal the last moments of the lives of killed men. In the collection *Gli altri fantasmi* (*The other ghosts*), written for theatre, these presences prevail and mingle with real characters. They are all tormented souls, the souls of a town. «This is Naples - de

Giovanni says -: millions of people in a very small area, each one with their own memories, their own nearest and dearest, their stubborn desire to survive everything, even themselves». The director Francesco Saponaro says that «in this trilogy about suspension between life and death there is the town, with its desires and its unhealed wounds». You can chance upon a barefoot little girl and her big eyes that don't shed tears, who runs through the alleys of the Spanish quarter in the early 1900's, and who sees her mother's phantom in the face of a Madonna: in *La canzone di Filomena*, de Giovanni's prose becomes poetry of pain. In *Storia di Papo e Bimbomio*, a strong, painful short story, a father, through the eyes of an old blind man, recalls all his sufferings, from the disease to the death of his son. *La casa è il mio regno* causes a bitter smile and winks at Eduardo de Filippo, one of the great masters of Italian theatre. This time, the main character is the lethal poison of hate that makes a man and a woman unhappy but close for eternity.

**Maurizio De Giovanni** was born in 1958 in Naples, where he lives and works. He started writing in 2005 when he also won a literary contest for up-and-coming detective-story writers with a short story whose main character is the police commissioner Ricciardi. **Ricciardi's novels, published by Einaudi Stile Libero, are translated in Germany, Spain, France, England and USA.** In 2012, his *Il metodo del coccodrillo* was published by Mondadori and started the saga “*I Bastardi di Pizzofalcone*”, which has become a fiction broadcast on RAI1.

He has also written short stories about football and in particular about Napoli Football Club, of which he is a keen supporter. The anthology *Per segnare bisogna tirare in porta* published by Edizioni Spartaco, includes the short story *La palla del Negro* that deals with the legendary goal scored by Diego Armando Maradona.

**INTRODUCTION BY Francesco Saponaro** (Naples, 1970) director, playwright and film-maker. He easily deals with prose, classical and lyric theatre. He has performed Aeschylus, Bernhard, Havel, Pirandello, Cechov, Beckett, Kafka, Mirò, Moscato and De Filippo in Italy and abroad.

**COMMENT BY Chiara Baffi**, Neapolitan actress. She has acted in internationally significant theatrical performances directed by important directors, such as Rosi, Servillo, Piovani, De Filippo, Vargas, Saponaro, Pasqual, Capuano, Carpentier. She has won prestigious awards, such as the Ubu Award 2008 and the Eleonora Duse Award as best up-and-coming actress.

**AND Tony Laudadio** (Caserta 1970), playwright, theatre and TV actor. In 2010, Ediz. Spartaco published his Teatro fuorilegge. *La gabbia. Infanzia di un socialista. L'appostamento.* He has worked with Federico Tiezzi, Toni Servillo, Andrea Renzi and Nanni Moretti. In 2013 Bompiani published his novel *Esco*.



**L'isola dei fiori di cappero** (The island of caper flowers)

**Vito Faenza**  
**Pages: 120**  
**Bestseller**

*“On coming out of school, just entered the car, she told Him: «I don't want to see you anymore. I don't want to continue...». She used big words for a small, insignificant story. Anna thought she could easily put an end to their relationship, without problems. But His gaze became cruel. For some endless moments He said nothing, not a word. Suddenly He speeded up and drove at full speed for kilometers. Then he stopped in a country road. He turned towards her and held a gun on her stomach: «I'll kill you»”.*

Anna is only 13 when the boss' son noticed her. Attracted by his powerful cars, by

his presents and by the respect commanded, she accepts his attentions. But this mistake turns into a heavy chain that only a young law student, Giovanni, will be able to break. A crime news inspires a passionate love story told by an attentive observer of the world of gangsters- The plot, based on a true story, describes what happens in Southern Italy, and sometimes all over the country. Corrupt politicians, Camorra creeping in the corridors of power, clan wars, attacks and murders, fear choking the voice of those who are too weak to rise up. And then the Law, which is hardly able to restore order and sometimes has to exceed in order to obtain a partial justice. No heroes. No winners. Only a struggle to survive.

**Vito Faenza** (1948), journalist and essayist. He has worked for l'Unità, Panorama, Il Messaggero. He contributes to the radio agency Area and to the press agency Agi. He has been working for Corriere del Mezzogiorno/Corriere della Sera since 2000. He has written many essays on organized crime and national and international terrorism. From 2004 to 2010 he was secretary of the Camorra and Illegality Observatory and editor of its monthly bulletin.

#### SOME REVIEWS:

- «“L'isola dei fiori di capperi” (The island of caper flowers) by Vito Faenza is an enthralling novel. An astonishing story, suspended between hope and reality; between crime news and “neurotic” storyline as those by Agatha Christie, that enchants the reader from the first to the last line » (La Repubblica).
- «A lot of books dealing about the world of camorra bosses and of their errand boys have followed Gomorra. Some books as distressing as Roberto Saviano's best seller, some others characterized by a teasing and less realistic style like that of the TV series “I Soprano”. But this book by Vito Faenza is not influenced by stereotypes. He is a crime news journalist and he is not tempted to contextualize the characters and the stories of his first novel in a space and time frame. So, he avoids the clichés and he is not involved in this event that actually happened and that inspires him, while protecting its real characters. [...] And if from the first lines the reader thinks that love will win, this seems extremely difficult, maybe impossible. But it happens. But it can happen, seems to say the journalist and now also novelist Vito Faenza. On the contrary, it has happened. Therefore, even in the most adverse circumstances there is always hope» (Corriere della Sera).
- «But Anna is not one of the usual “boss women”. She is intelligent, cunning and she can diplomatically face even the most dangerous situations» (Il Salvagente).



**La proprietà transitiva**  
**Nelson Martinico e Federico Ligotti**  
**Pages: 232**

If Utopia is real  
 The impossible doesn't exist

- A transsexual becomes prime minister; the Church is reinventing itself: a politically incorrect novel intended to make so much noise
- A father and his son, the first an author for Bompiani and the second a journalist, are the authors of a solid crime story with white deaths and degradation
- A long journey in a consciousness and dirty Italy. Until the revival...

“We, the Promoters of Trans' Liberty, are proud to be citizens of one of the most advanced Country in the world: Italy!”

The murder of a mobster, chalked up in 2010 in a town near Trapani, finds its solution only thirty years later. Meanwhile, in 2040, the times have radically changed. The Church, following the Third Vatican Council, opens at new instances of society. The reactionary power, who in fifty years has upset Italy leading it to a crisis with no way out, is supplanted by the new Liberal-Socialist Movement, with a transsexual as a prime minister. But what ties the unsolved murder of so many years before to the political, social and anthropological mutation of Italian society?

**Pino Ligotti** lives between Rome and Trapani. Professor of Italian retired, he was also the teacher of the writing workshop "From Dante to Fante". He hates the car. He is a Bompiani's author.

**Federico Ligotti** lives between Rome and Umbria. He is journalist, expert in food and wine sector. He is a fan of Roma's football team; his dream is a Champions' final in Rome.

**Ho una storia per te (I've got a Story for You)**  
**Attilio Coco**  
**Pages: 175**



Which eyes has the past got? It's got those of Duilio Foresti, 80 years old, an ex-projectionist of a neighbourhood cinema, aka Wolf. But also those of a police officer, Amedeo Biagiante, victim of a partisans' ambush. Their eyes meet a few seconds after the shot that ties their destinies together. Duilio's life crystallizes in that moment. Now his thirty-year friendship with the fifty-year-old writer Pietro Mattei is shaken by that news that seems to come from one of many novels about Resistance that he has studied. But this is a different story, this is «life... that bare, grievous, painful and wonderful life that writing sometimes gathers but against which it often protects».

*I've got a Story for You* is a touching novel dealing with a crucial period in Italian history, a private narration that can unveil unexpected destinies and can link together the story of a friendship and that one of an entire nation. And finally, the torch passes on from a generation to another to let the truth become tale «in this time so annoyed with memory, in this Country that risks to forget the certainties offered by History».

“I've got a Story for You (Edizioni Spartaco) describes the projectionist Duilio and his story as a partisan who has a big guilt feeling. The book has really moved me especially when the partisan-president Sandro Pertini comes on the scene”. (Il Sole24Ore)

**Attilio Coco** (1958, Basilicata) is a high school Italian and History teacher and a film critic. He lives and works in Rome. He has been interested in film critics since the early nineties, writing for the *Giornale di Napoli* and for the magazine *Segnocinema*. He has published some essays on Pier Paolo Pasolini and the films never shot by the Italian director, the Italian cinema of the nineties, Clint Eastwood's acting strategies, American television series, the relationship between Italian cinema and country world.

He is also a teacher at Mim (Master dell'immaginario) of Morris, Casini&Partners in Rome. He has published *Sguardi d'autore. Visioni e immagini cinematografiche della Basilicata* (Pianeta Libro Editore 2000) about Francesco Rosi's and Pier Paolo Pasolini's Southern Italy cinema. He has contributed to the 12th volume of *Storia del cinema italiano*, edited by Flavio De Bernardinis (Marsilio - Edizioni di Bianco & Nero 2009). He has a blog ([www.attiliococo.blogspot.com](http://www.attiliococo.blogspot.com)) where he talks about books and his experience as a reader.

### **Il muggito di Sarajevo (Sarejevo's bellow)**

**Lorenzo Mazzoni**

**Pages: 252**



Born to be under siege. This is what Amira thinks of herself. She is eighteen years old and she has a big dream - dream that may never turn into reality because she lives in Sarajevo in 1993 and the city is being destroyed by the war between Serbians and Bosnians. The heart of the player of cigar box guitar beats to the rhythm of mortar-caused explosions and machine-gun shots, but Amira sings about hope and survival. The other members of the No-Instruments Band are colonel Mustafa Setka, bass expert, and Masne, gigantic dancer of kolo, responsible for percussion instruments. These two follow around all day long Jack, better known as Mozambik the Irish, Amira's boyfriend and drug dealer. When the need arises, Jack volunteers to be the guide for those war correspondents packed into the half-

destroyed Holiday Inn. It is in one of those occasions that he meets Carlo and Oscar, two Italian photojournalists that are after an extraordinary scoop: right among bombs and ruins, they are looking for an Indian cow that is told to have precognitive powers. Could that be the animal that old Ivan has been hiding in the inner part of his tobacco shop - shop that turned into an opium den right after the beginning of the conflict? After all, she is not the only guest that the merchant has been keeping away from prying eyes and ears. In a storage closet, a mad Serbian can be found who, after eating too many hallucinogenic mushrooms, found himself on the wrong side of the conflict. Ivan's purpose is to give him back to his fellow soldiers in exchange for a ransom. This ransom is to be asked to a strange sniper who works for Serbian intelligence service and who is able to focus only when he sings to himself Barbra Streisand's hits. Of course, Barbra has nothing to do with Kurt Cobain's Nirvana, group that Amira discovered thanks to a cousin of hers: a Dutch of Bosnian origin who, since he embraced Islam while in prison, has been torn between rock and religious faith.

### **Quando le chitarre facevano l'amore (When Guitars Made Love)**

**Lorenzo Mazzoni**

**Pages: 348**

A former Nazi manager of a rock band  
An Italian hunter of war criminals



**A skeleton in love with Anita Garibaldi  
A guitar tells about the Beat Generation**

- Rhythm, irony, heart-pounding final
- History, chronicles and fiction merge from cover to cover
- You can love or hate the characters, but they are never simple extras
- The writer is a journalist, author of reports for national newspapers

May 2, 1945. Martin Bormann, Adolf Hitler's personal secretary, disappears in the streets of Berlin during the Soviet advance. Twenty years later, sources close to the CIA identify him as Martin Weisberg, manager of a psychedelic rock group close to the radical movement. The novel opens with a daring manhunt involving diverted sectors of US intelligence, Mossad agents, a Nazi's Italian hunter, a presidential impersonator and a psychopath veteran of Vietnam. The story is set in August 1968 in Anita, Texas, with raids between Guatemala City, Singapore, Saigon. The story takes place in a period of great social changes: Chicago, the black question, universities fighting, rock music, the persecution of the radical movement by the FBI, hallucinogenic substances. The explosive social climate of the summer of '68 is the backdrop to a stunning spy story.

**Lorenzo Mazzoni** was born in Ferrara in 1974. He lived in London, Paris, Sana'a and Hurghada, and wandered in Europe, Morocco, Egypt, Turkey, Kurdistan, Yemen, Laos and Vietnam. Author of novels, short stories and reportage, is working with the newspapers *Il Fatto Quotidiano*, *The Reporter*, *East Journal*, *Torno Giovedì*, *il Manifesto*. Graduated in History and Institutions of Asia, Mazzoni teaches Italian in Milan.

Young people are outraged by war, racism, family  
Music is a fire under this boiling pot



**Magellano e il Magizete**  
**Guido Trombetti**  
**Pages: 120**

Reality and fantasy are each the negation of the other or are faces of the same coin? This is the question that runs through the novel by Guido Trombetti and that only in the last page, with a brilliant and unexpected close, is reassembled and finds its solution. The author sets up a gallery of number one, known to readers of all times and all latitudes, members of an unlikely and mysterious circle: The Explorers and Sailors of Yesterday and Today. Founded by Magellan in 1600, it is now called to decide the entry of people who have made their main way of imagination and who are convinced that they have changed the world not least of praticoni of reality: Verne and Asimov have made explicated request. The scene is constantly changing and the phases of the assembly of the club, also animated by

the arrival of the rich Sinbad, ready to support the reasons for the East in the advancement of science and culture, alternate with zoom unexpected of a school where the teacher, "spinster barge and stocky", holding the leash a crew of boys lively, cheerful, always ready to joke, but engaged with intelligence to think and reason. It is the universe of Alice, Giuseppe, Giulio, Italo. But, these names... do they remember someone?

**Annibale, Spartaco e Garibaldi**  
**Guido Trombetti**  
**pages 126**

Besides the History, beyond the Legend, there are feats told in "Hannibal, Spartacus and Garibaldi". Hannibal, the Carthaginian general who dared to challenge Rome, was tempted to blow it out of love for a peasant. Spartacus, pastor, slave, gladiator who put in check the Urbe with a band of rebels, had a horse as a confidant. Garibaldi, peerless strategist who marked the defeat of the Borboni at the Battle of the Volturno, read the future in the cards. On the battlefield, the three did not forgive. Courage, determination, cunning are common traits. But, in the depths of their hearts, doubt can also attack them. And that's where it reveals the soul of the three leaders. A wrong choice can





cost the lives of soldiers. A hesitation is likely to turn the tide of the battle. A delay may cause the defeat. And so, each fighter appeals to his spirit guide. The faithful elephant Rumba. The brave steed Arion. The sarcastic parrot Laverdure. In the background is Capua, ancient and modern, the theater of war, land that asks for independence three men who have one aspiration: freedom.

**Guido Trombetti** (1949), former rector of the University Federico II of Naples, is Professor of Mathematics at the same University. Author of about 400 articles for *Il Mattino*, *la Repubblica*, *il Corriere del Mezzogiorno*, *Il riformista*, is also author of the novel "When you least expect it" (2010 ancora del mediterraneo) and "I segreti di Pitagora" (2010 Bruno Mondadori) as well as texts of mathematical analysis. He has received awards and recognition in the academic world.



**Un pallido sole che scotta** (A pale sun that burns)  
**Francesco de Core**  
**Pages: 170**

The South told by Francesco de Core is love and torment, deep incision in the flesh of a territory of the soul that could be and is not, a country with too many flags, an eternal purgatory of betrayed expectations. It is a journey of hope, repressed by eyes and willed by heart. In good, great company of writers and artists, stateless and icons of a Europe lost, hermits in search of a desert where they live and pray, poets who love words and colors, by Pier Paolo Pasolini to Albert Camus, by Giuseppe Berto to Leonardo Sciascia, by Alfonso Gatto to Roberto Saviano, by Giuseppe Montesano to Elena Ferrante, by Nicola Pugliese to Luigi Compagnone and Gustav Herling. Among the characters, landscapes, chronicles, dissonances, impressions, looks, that of Francesco de Core is a path that highlights all the contradictions of the case. Because the South is just a node unresolved, an oxymoron, "a pale sun that burns", to quote a verse from the poet Attilio

Bertolucci.

**Francesco De Core** (Caserta 1965), journalist of the newspaper *Il Mattino*. He wrote, with Ottorino Gurgo, "Silone, the adventure of a free man" (Marsilio, 1998), "Burocrati e saltimbanchi siete il veleno della sinistra. Il libro rosso di Lev Davidovic Trotzky" (Pironti, 1999), "Silone, un alfabeto" (L'ancora del mediterraneo, 2003). He edited the book of journalistic writings of Ignazio Silone, "Esami di coscienza" (e/o, 2000, premio Capri San Michele) e "Stanza 1304. La finestra sulla guerra" (Graus, 2004). His interventions appear in the volumes: "L'eredità di Tempo presente" (Fahrenheit 451, 2000), "Nel Sud. Senza bussola" (l'ancora del mediterraneo, 2002), "Silone. La libertà" (Guerini e Associati, 2007), "Stranieri. Albert Camus e il nostro tempo" (Contrasto, 2012), "Fuoco sulla città" (Ad est dell'equatore, 2013). He writes for the magazine *Lo Straniero*.



**Le giocatrici. Lotto. Slot machine. Bingo**  
**Marilena Lucente**  
**Pages: 155**

*How much do women play?  
 Especially how, why, where?*

- A story in the feminine that explores the phenomenon of the game and the way it distorts the lives of the players and of those around them, between frenzy, hopes, illusions and defeats.
- A blood bond unites the players: you win and you lose, you hate, you cry and you laugh: alone is impossible, suddenly you find love.
- Teresa and numbers of Lotto, Ilaria and the compulsiveness of the slot machines, Assunta and the Bingo: a universe populated by disturbing and sweet figures at the same time, capable

of tempting fate and talk face to face with destiny.

• Ninety billion spent each year on gambling. An entire country flooded with slot machines, bingo halls and betting shops. The number of people with gambling addiction that is increasing day by day.

"Life, death, love: these are the three fucking games in life"

Teresa is a lost bet: to pay a gambling debt, his father made her marry "Persechella" cold and

calculating man, a winner. Four winning numbers, that she receives in a dream but she doesn't play, set free the fever of a whole community. Nothing to do with the compulsiveness of the slot machines, the physical and mental alienation that live players, the dangerous proximity with the world of crime: the "Bar", where Ilaria works, gets burned. Meanwhile, the lights of the bingo hall come on: here, single women, the butterflies, cling to the desire to win in the hope of redeeming from the past and turning the page finally. But they still have to contend with the case, the good and the bad times.

**Marilena Lucente** (1967) lives in Caserta where she teaches. She is the author of essays about school. Among the texts of fiction: "Scritto sui banchi" and "Di dove sei" (Cargo). For the theater has published the drama "Napoli, 1647. Una rivoluzione d'amore" (Caraco 2012), Prize jury Antonio Landiero - Theatre for the civil commitment (November 2013). For the broadcast Fahrenheit - Rai Radio Tre oversaw the cycle audio documentaries - Fahrescuola - ten episodes dedicated to the life of the institute where she teaches (March 2013).