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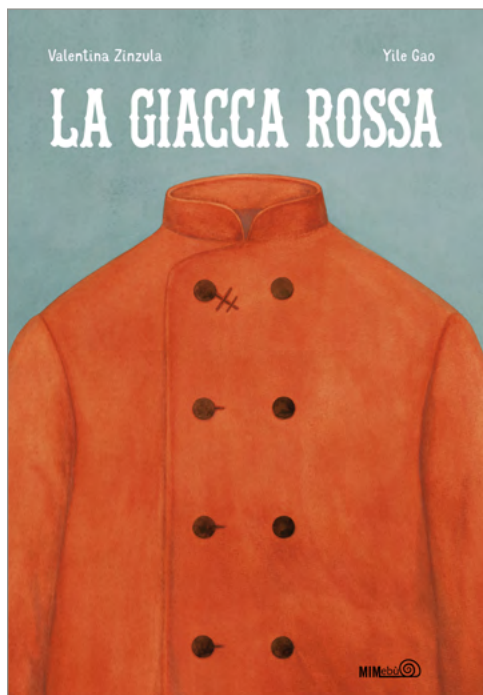


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Valentina Zinzula - Yile Gao

THE RED JACKET



Format: cm 21 x 30 - Pages: 44 - Age: 5+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Yile Gao
Published in Italy by MIMebù – Mim Edizioni

The red jacket travels through seasons, from one body to the next, but none of those who wear her appreciate her for as she is: some cover the ruined buttonhole, others sew golden epaulets, some other apply colorful sequins. The red jacket no longer feels like herself...

Until, on her last journey, she meets a little girl who picks her up and, with her mother's help, frees her from the ornaments that made her unrecognizable even to herself. To love someone – or something – means loving them as they are, without trying to change them.

- *A story of a reject, of an imperfect model saved by gentle hands, capable of giving value even to something that doesn't seem to have any*



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Elisa Vincenzi - Ilaria Braiotta

MY PLACE IN THE WORLD... WITH YOU



Format: cm 21 x 30 - Pages: 40 - Age: 5+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Ilaria Braiotta
Published in Italy by MIMebù – Mim Edizioni

Love is strange. Sometimes it makes us feel very small. Other times, it makes us feel so big that we can touch the sky! It can be painful, but also pure joy.

Gianni Frei has never felt anything like it. But he also knows what it's like to feel out of place. He's so tall that even the simplest things – like tying his shoelaces or smelling the violets – are difficult for him. But everything changes when he gets a job as a lamplighter. As Gianni fills the city with light, he begins to understand that his height is a gift and can finally accept himself for who he is. So, when he meets Luna, he's ready to receive a gift he'd never have imagined possible: love.

- A book to read, watch, and listen to, with 8 original tunes
- By the authors of *You Are Music*, a picture book that guides children through their first encounter with music in a dance of notes, words, and colors



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Elisa Vincenzi - Ilaria Braiotta

YOU ARE MUSIC



Format: cm 21 x 30 - Pages: 40 - Age: 3+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Ilaria Braiotta
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

Are you ready for your first encounter with music? Sit back, open your ears wide and read, watch and listen to this illustrated book made up of sounds, words and images. Through a QR code, you can connect to a YouTube playlist of 12 music tracks which, page after page, will accompany you as you read. You will discover that some music is as light as feathers in the snow, while other music digs into the earth like the roots of a tree. Let yourself be transported to unique settings, lulled by everchanging melodies. Everyone has a music inside. Can you hear it, too? A book that accompanies children in a dance of notes, words and colours.

- A book to enjoy with your eyes and ears, with 12 original tunes to listen to as you read
- The author specializes in music therapy, and sound and movement education



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THROWAWAY STORIES



Format: cm 14.8 x 21 – Pages: 88 – Age: 7+
Hardcover
Illustrations by Federica Caslotti
Published in Italy by MIMebù – Mim Edizioni

Life went on quietly among the garbage bins, until some bungler accidentally messed it up: wet waste along with plastic, cans with paper, batteries in the unsorted... and the garbage all got mixed up! What to do? Fortunately, a solution is always there to be found. Come meet the paper kid and her friends and help her guide each piece of waste back to the right dumpster. Because in this adventure, you are the protagonist! Choose your own path, face scary plastic monsters, find out what's hiding in the cardboard forest... and you too will become a recycling hero!

- The first game book that reveals you all the secrets you need to know about recycling
- What happens to things after you've thrown them away? In this book it's you who decide how the story goes on



THE DAD FAIR



Format: cm 21 x 30 - Pages: 44 - Age: 5+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Morgana Lucarelli
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

The Great Dad Fair is back in town! It's a very special occasion in which children who don't have a dad can choose one. At the same time, children have fun showing off the special skills their dads have, and also compete over who has the best Dad.

There is the handyman dad, who can fix just about anything; the chef dad, who is always in the kitchen; there is also a two-for-one-dad special offer! Flavio, who went to the fair alone, doesn't know who to choose, and wonders if there will be a father for him at all, until he notices a stall, with a man who is holding a sign that reads "Aspiring Dad".

Flavio is curious: this man may not be a talented chef or a wonderful musician, but if you think about it, do you really have to be exceptional at something to be a good dad?

Flavio has found his dad: who knows how many fantastic things they can learn to do together!

- A charming book dedicated to all types of dads, to make them feel important every day, not only on their special day
- Rights sold in Spanish



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Eva Serena Pavan - Morgana Lucarelli

THE ART OF WAKING CHILDREN UP



Format: cm 21 x 30 - Pages: 40 - Age: 5+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Morgana Lucarelli
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

The moment when children wake up in the morning is often underestimated by adults, who prefer to pay more attention to a "goodnight routine". But who is the one to hold out a hand to lead their child into the chaotic and complicated world of everyday life?

This is the most complete and reliable manual available, dedicated to the delicate art of waking children up: a discipline that requires knowledge, creativity and a lot of practice, in particular because there are so many types of sleepers...

How can we get rid of the Baby Monkey, clinging to us with his hands, arms and legs?

How can we find the Jungle Child in the thick, tangled blankets, which he has wrapped around himself?

But above all: does the Sleeping Beauty Baby Boy, who wakes up with a kiss, really exist?

- Children will have fun in finding themselves represented in the book
- For those who loved *The Lion Child and Other Children* by Gabriele Clima
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ZOE'S HOUSES



Format: cm 24 x 24 - Pages: 40 - Age: 4+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Lucia Ricciardi
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

For children, HOME has many meanings: shelter, security, warmth. It can welcome you or push you away, it can be concrete or metaphorical, and it can tell the story of a child's inner world.

Zoe is a lucky girl because she has many houses: some are large, others small, high or low, but not all of them can be touched. The house with the canvas walls is under the kitchen table, with the white tablecloth that is used as a sail for a ship. However, on rainy days she takes refuge in the house of Teodoro, her little dog: it's a bit small, but it's also warm and comfortable. Some houses are invisible and mysterious, like the glass house, where Zoe stays on sad days. But when her mother kneels down and says "I'm listening to you", the glass house magically disappears, and the clouds of anger around her also disappear. Maybe this is why Zoe's favourite home is when she is in her mother's arms.

- *This illustrated book invites us to observe the endless possibilities of children's creative, sensorial and emotional expression*
- *By the same duo of The Drawer of Memories*



Lorenza Farina - Lucia Ricciardi

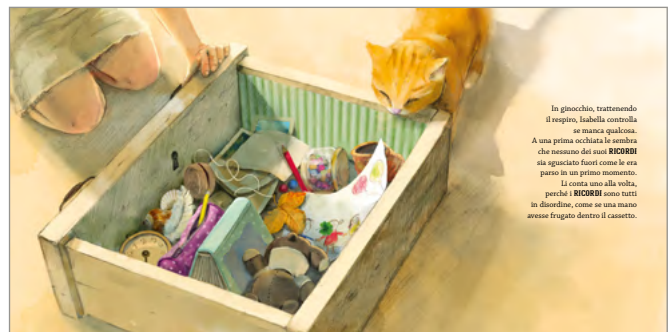
THE DRAWER OF MEMORIES



Format: cm 24 x 24 - Pages: 48 - Age: 5+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Lucia Ricciardi
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

Isabella suddenly wakes up: her drawer has been opened! All of her treasures are in a mess, and she has to count them to be sure: a baby tooth, a snail's house, an alarm clock without hands, the four-leaf clover she found on a walk with her grandfather. Yet something is wrong... Isabella doesn't know how to explain it, but she is sure: a memory is missing! She looks for it everywhere in the house without finding it. So, she goes out into the garden and finally sees it: that funny bell in the shape of a ladybird tied to her daddy's bicycle. She takes it in her hand, closes her eyes and listens to it: this is the memory she was looking for! A memory that feels like wind in her hair, of the salty smell of the sea, of strong arms holding her and the sound of that bell... A memory that feels like childhood.

- *A book that invites us to step into our memories and shows us that the most precious treasures are the things that touch our feelings*



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Penny J. Rimau - Giulia Cregut

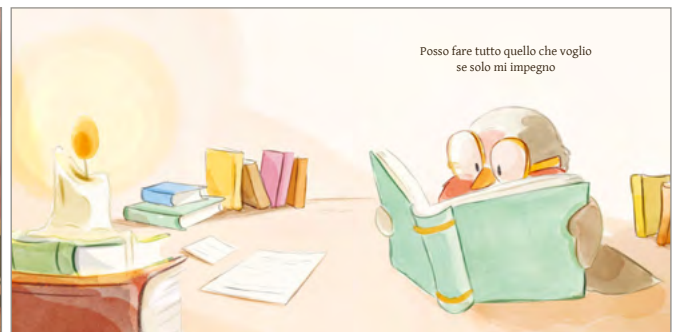
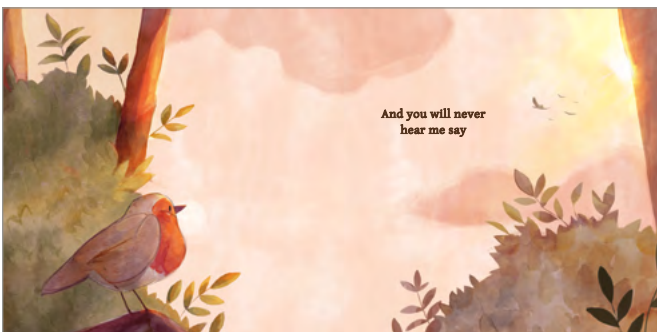
I WILL (NEVER) LEARN TO FLY



Format: cm 24 x 24 - Pages: 44 - Age: 4+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Giulia Cregut
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

Sometimes the obstacles in front of us seem like mountains, and we see no way out. So we give up before we even try. This is exactly how the protagonist of this story feels, a robin who has no intention of leaving his nest. He will never learn to fly, he is certain, so he might as well give up. He is convinced that his wings are not strong enough and that his friends will laugh at him when he falls. But luckily his flying teacher reveals a secret to him, actually two secrets: you can't learn to do anything if you are afraid of making mistakes, but more importantly, sometimes a change of perspective is enough to turn a failure into a beautiful adventure.

- A story told in reverse poetry to remind us that sometimes all you need to do is look at things from a different perspective
- A book that teaches us not to give up and to move beyond the fear of failure
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Caterina Pavan - Giulia Cregut

A PUSH TO FLY



Format: cm 24 x 24 - Pages: 40 - Age: 4+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Giulia Cregut
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

David loves the swing. As he swings back and forth, he dreams of floating in space like an astronaut, flying lighter than a soap bubble or launching himself into the wind like the cannon man. Endless scenarios take shape around him through the power of his imagination. Linda would also like to swing so fast, but she is too afraid, so she waits in the hope that David will come down to play together. Instead, he invites her to try. As he pushes her, Linda enters the wonderful world of imagination: now she too dreams of being an astronaut, then a trapeze artist and again an Olympic diver. But the great thing about the swing is that, if you squeeze a bit, there is room for two and you can dream together.

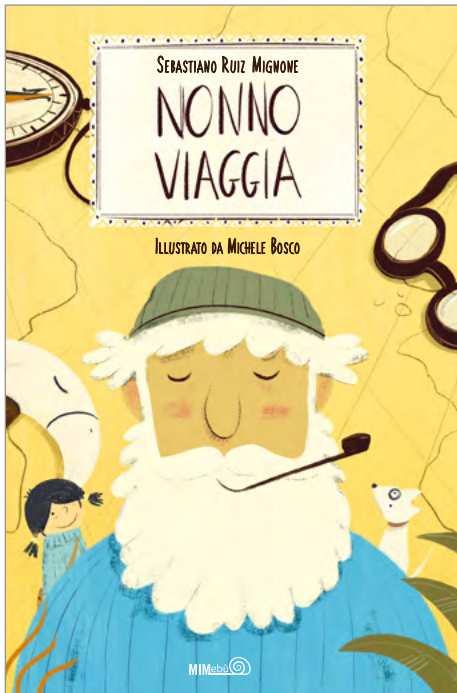
- A universal story about sharing and the power of a child's boundless imagination
- A book produced in collaboration with, and the patronage of, *Fondazione Irene*, an association focused on learning disabilities and inclusive teaching



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GRANDPA SETS SAIL



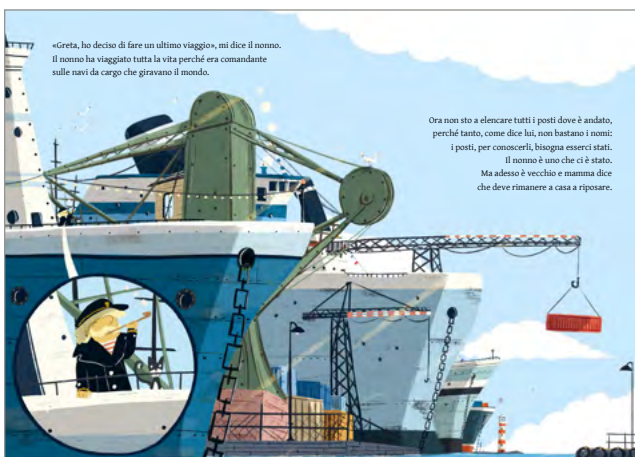
Format: cm 21 x 30 - Pages: 48 - Age: 5+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Michele Bosco
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

Where do we go when we are no longer here? Greta's grandfather is about to leave and she would like to accompany him, but it is just not possible: she doesn't have the right equipment to face such a difficult journey.

However, she can help him with the preparations, and together they set off on an incredible journey, exploring Grandpa's big house full of heirlooms and precious memories. Every object tells a story, every room transports to distant worlds: the bathtub looks like a ship ready to set sail, the legs of the coffee table, from the right angle, become soaring peaks!

This (extra)ordinary adventure goes on for weeks, until one morning Greta's mum tells her that Grandpa has left...

- A poetic picture book that turns the ordinary into the extraordinary and looks at death by narrating life
- Among various awards, the author has won the Italian Andersen Prize for Best Author (1996) and the Italian Andersen – Jury Prize (2015)
- For those who love the picture books by Benji Davies



Elisa Vincenzi - Michele Bosco

YOGA HOW EXCITING!



Phil is getting bored: Mum and Dad are too busy to look after him! Perhaps he will find someone to play with in the forest... Here are Hare and Dormouse performing the Sun Salutation together, while Turtle feels more relaxed and positive thanks to the Warrior pose. Why don't you try it too? Together with Phil you will discover all the emotions yoga can give, in a unique book made of sounds and movement.

Format: cm 28 x 24.6 - Pages: 56 - Age: 4+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Michele Bosco
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

- An illustrated gamebook with yoga poses for relaxation and fun
- Multimedia content available: video lessons created by the Yoga in Fiore association with music composed by the author
- Yoga as a way to help children express their feelings, reduce anxiety, improve concentration, and develop social skills



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THE SNOW BY THE SEA



Format: cm 21 x 30 - Pages: 56 - Age: 4+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Michele Bosco
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

Sofia knows what snow is, but she has never seen it: she lives by the sea, where it's never too cold... until one morning, when her mum wakes her up and exclaims: 'It's snowing!'. The whole family runs outside to admire the beautiful sight of the snow by the sea. Sofia discovers that the salty waves melt the flakes that have fallen on the shore and that each crystal, seen through a microscope, is as unique and special as each of us. With Mum and Dad she builds her first snowman, makes a delicious slushy and creates a magic glass ball so snow can fall all year round.

- An illustrated gamebook: at the end of the story, readers will find snow-themed tutorials, games and experiments
- An author who's written over 130 books for children and teenagers, and has won major awards, including the Bancarellino Award and the 2015 Italian Andersen Award for Best Artist Book
- Rights sold in Serbian



Lisa and Margherita Riccardi - Michele Bosco

LETTER FROM AN (ALMOST) BROTHER TO AN (ALMOST) SISTER



Format: cm 28 x 24.6 - Pages: 48 - Age:4+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Michele Bosco
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

Dear (almost) sister, this is it... Mum told me that you'll land in our house when she can no longer see her feet. So it's almost time! There's a lot of things you need to know, but don't worry, I can teach you. I know the most fun games and if you come to the cave under the bed, you'll discover a hidden treasure. You should know that grown-ups have a lot of rules: brace yourself! Mum, Dad and I can't wait to meet you. Oh, I forgot! We also have a cat called Little. He's called that because Mum always says 'little' is enough to be happy. I'm waiting for you.

- A warm, light-hearted picture book that's perfect for welcoming a new arrival to the family
- Rights sold in Polish



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Valentina Zinzula - Andrea Alemanno

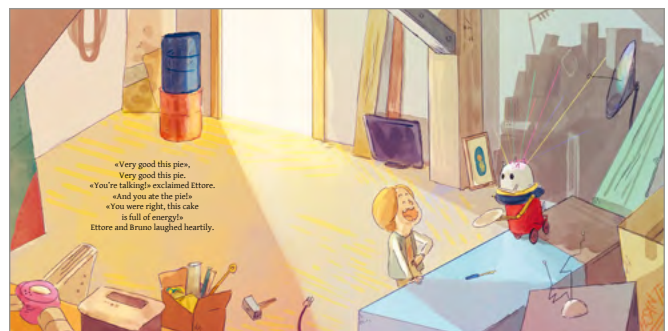
THE LAB OF NEW OPPORTUNITIES



Format: cm 23 x 23 - Pages: 44 - Age: 5+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Andrea Alemanno
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

Uncle Remo is a genius inventor and has built a unique gift for his nephew: a little robot named BR1 who immediately becomes Ettore's best friend. Together they have incredible adventures and spend unforgettable days, until... BR1 falls into the river and shuts down, perhaps forever. Ettore is desperate: does he already have to say goodbye to his new friend? But his uncle does not give up: with love, patience, a few sacrifices and the right spare parts, even a metal heart can beat again. So Ettore and Uncle Remo roll up their sleeves: it's time to inaugurate the Lab of New Opportunities!

- A story about the beauty of growing close to others and mending things that might have seemed broken forever
- A book produced in collaboration with Etik—a, an NPO that has developed a project, which includes this book, aimed at paediatric heart transplant patients



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Claudia Mendini

IT TAKES TIME



Format: cm 24 x 24 - Pages: 60 - Age: 5+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Claudia Mendini
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

This story begins with a blank page: a void full of light, and in this light, suddenly... a pebble is born! A tiny spectator of evolution, the pebble tells the story of the Earth, from the birth of the first organisms to the present day. It is a long, slow story, because extraordinary things like this take a lot of patience: millions, indeed billions of years. But it is worth the wait, because eventually you will discover that something very precious is hidden inside everything: rocks, plants, animals... and even inside you! A book about the origin of the universe, and of ourselves. A book that teaches us to love slowness.

- *A tiny pebble teaches us that the big things take time*
- *Rights sold in Korean*



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Fulvia Degl'Innocenti - Paola Formica



THE COLOURS OF RAIN



Rain is a nuisance for everyone: some people have just hung out their washing, others have to wash their car again, others have their hairstyle ruined... But Martin doesn't agree: he loves the rain! What are you waiting for? Grab your cape and boots and come along. Rainy days are the perfect opportunity to dive into puddles, float paper boats, watch the droplets on the window panes and finally, with your nose in the air, wait for the rainbow to come. Indeed, rain isn't grey or sad at all like everyone thinks: it has lots of fun colours!

Format: cm 24 x 24 - Pages: 48 - Age: 4+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Paola Formica
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

- An interactive e-book full of sounds and animations read aloud by the author
- A book that teaches how to see the colours in life's storms
- A prolific author who's won major awards, including the Bancarellino Award and the 2015 Italian Andersen Award for Best Artist Book



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Fulvia Degl'Innocenti - Paola Formica



THE ADVENTURE BOX



What could be in the box that Aunt Caterina has given her nephew for his birthday? Leonard opens it impatiently. But when he looks inside, a warm, windy vortex carries him away. Suddenly, the air smells of salt, and Leonardo finds himself on board Blackbeard's sailing ship as it races across the ocean. Then he's on the Little Prince's tiny planet. And then on a spaceship shaped like a cake! And that's just the beginning!

So, let's set sail on a magical voyage to discover the best-known classics ever written!

Format: cm 24 x 24 - Pages: 48 - Age: 5+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Paola Formica
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

- A book about the power of reading – the whole world can be inside a box, if the box contains a book
- An author who's written over 130 books for children and teenagers, and has won major awards, including the Bancarellino Award and the 2015 Italian Andersen Award for Best Artist Book



Leonardo per il suo compleanno riceve tanti regali.
Una scatola di mattoncini per costruire un'astronave.
Una maglietta con i supereroi.
Un kit per creare le impronte dei fossili.
Un'automobile radiocomandata.
Un robot dinamico.



Che cosa potrebbero scoprire? Gioidi, dabboni, linguetti d'oro?
Oppure la formula segreta dell'eterna giovinezza?
Leonardo è emozionatissimo: a chi non piacerebbe trovare un tesoro?

La chiama si inoltra in fila indiana dentro la foresta. Giganti sul luogo
indicato dalla mappa, Barbarosa comanda: «Cento passi a destra,
sotto la pianta a forma di tartaruga. È questo il punto. Scavano!».

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WHY DOGS DON'T TALK



Format: cm 20 x 24 - Pages: 36 - Age: 4+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Letizia Iannaccone
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

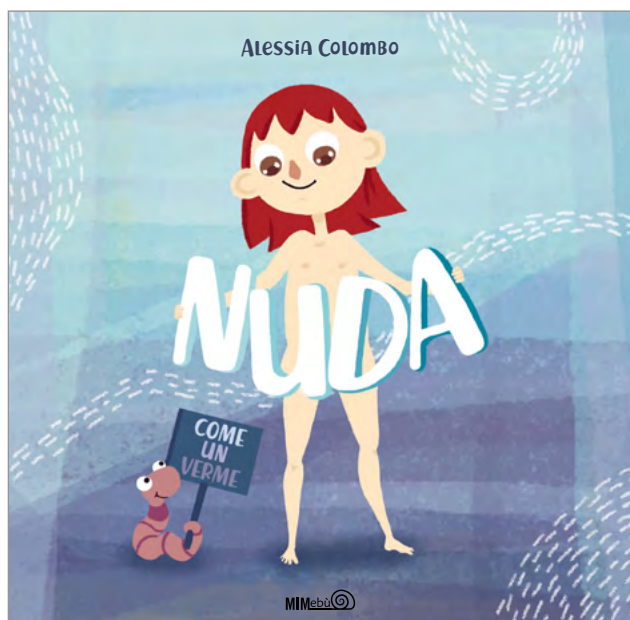
Dogs can't talk, everyone knows that! But are we really sure that this has always been the case? Once upon a time, humans and dogs lived as equals, each with his own cat or goldfish. Life went on peacefully and every year the community gathered in the presence of the wise king, the great Tibetan Hound. But then what could have happened? And why do dogs keep sniffing their bums as if they were looking for something... or perhaps someone? Could it have been that loud, unexpected, disrespectful, irreverent POOOOOOT during the king's speech that shook the entire canine universe?!

- A book that reveals the biggest secret of everyone's best friend



Alessia Colombo

NAKED



Format: cm 24 x 24 - Pages: 36 - Age: 5+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Alessia Colombo
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

What will I be like when I grow up? A little girl asks herself many questions, some of which most people find a bit embarrassing. Nudity still seems to be taboo! But what's wrong with knowing your own body? The time has come to shed all prejudices and admire the beauty of nature in all its forms. So let's go into the changing rooms of a swimming pool and discover that every person – old or young, tall or short, thin or fat – is unique, and that's the beauty of it. What a bore if we were all identical!

So what how I'll look when I grow up? Differences and all, my family and friends will love me just the same.

- *A book that tears down discrimination by celebrating the beauty of diversity*



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Stefania di Loreto - Giulia Cregut

TALES OF THE WINGED WOOD



Format: cm 20 x 25.5 - Pages: 56 - Age: 4+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Giulia Cregut
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

What do birds do when no one's looking? What secret plots do they hatch up among the branches? The inhabitants of the Winged Wood live a peaceful life. But, what with mischievous cats, predatory hawks, and mysterious intruders, there's also no shortage of adventures. That is until a couple of humans move into a small house in the middle of the garden. Ice the blackbird won't tolerate such insubordination! The Winged Wood is his kingdom, and all its inhabitants – from the great tit to the family of mice that lives in the garden – are his subjects! Little by little, though, the woman proves to Ice and his crew that not all humans are to be feared, and that friendship between different species is possible. Four stories that transport readers into a world of wings ... that really exists!

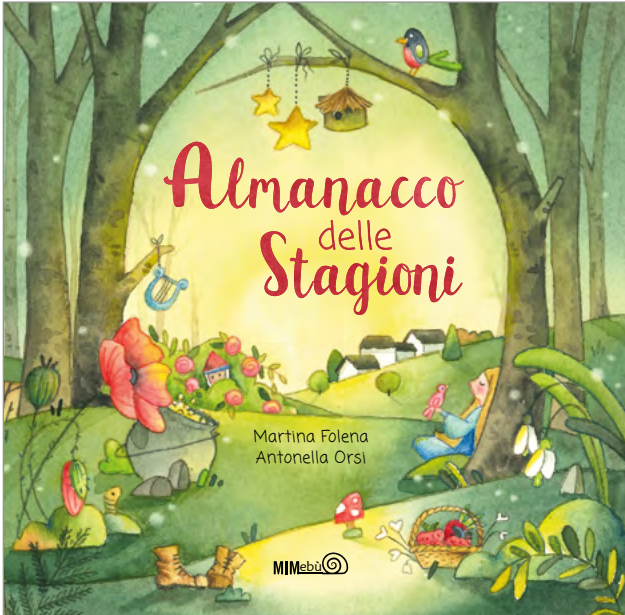
- Via a webcam in the author's garden (accessed by a QR code), readers can meet the characters in the story
- The book has been created in collaboration with the Piantando (Planting) association and is part of its Bird House – Adopt a Nest initiative for building artificial nests to give shelter to wild birds



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ALMANAC OF SEASONS



Format: cm 22 x 22 - Pages: 104 - Age: 4+
 Hardcover
 Full-colour illustrations: Antonella Orsi
 Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

Do you know why February has only 28 days? Or why the first month of the year is called January? Do you know how to build a beehouse? Or how to carve a pumpkin for Halloween? The Almanac of the Seasons will accompany kids through a whole year of discoveries, curiosities, proverbs, recipes, and legends from around the world. Twelve fairy tales, one for each month, will immerse them in the enchanting atmospheres of near and distant cultures. Follow the witch's tips and tricks on how to celebrate each special occasion with a touch of magic, and discover the secrets of living every day in harmony with nature. Decorated with wonderful watercolour illustrations, this book teaches little ones about the changing months and seasons. And there are plenty of surprises and discoveries in store for everyone.

- A book for the whole year that teaches children about the changing months and seasons
- A book that helps kids discover near and distant cultures



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WHAT'S IN THE ATTIC?



A record player, a coffee grinder, a bed warmer, an inkwell... Words as strange as the ancient and mysterious objects that Chiara discovers during a holiday at her grandmother's house. 'What's this?', 'What's that for?' asks the girl listening to her grandmother's playful nursery rhymes: and so she discovers that in the past the iron was heated with embers or that you had to go out into the garden to use the toilet! Maybe an old typewriter will encourage the girl to become a writer and tell us about all these fascinating discoveries...

Format: cm 24 x 24 - Pages: 40 - Age: 4+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Chiara Bolometti
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

● A book capable of arousing the nostalgia of the adult reader and the curiosity of children



Elisa Vincenzi - Chiara Bolometti

ONCE UPON A GAME



Format: cm 21 x 30 - Pages: 64 - Age: 5+
Hardcover
Full-colour illustrations: Chiara Bolometti
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

In her grandma's attic, Chiara found an old book with yellowed pages and decided to take it to school. There are many strange names in it, such as hopscotch, leapfrog, the sack race and Snakes and Ladders. All it takes is a bicycle wheel or a rope to create lots of different pastimes! These are timeless games that bring together grandparents, parents and grandchildren. Why don't you try them yourself? All you need is your friends, a bit of curiosity and a willingness to experiment.

- The fun doesn't end, with lots of games at the end of the book and a QR code for accessing 10 extra video lessons



«Non mi ricordo il nome di questo gioco»,
borbotta Matilde grattandosi la testa.
«Si chiama **compunti**!» esclama Martina con flemma.
«Proprio così, e può essere chiamato anche Mondo e Settimana»,
spiega la maestra. «Qualcun altro lo conosce?»
«Io no», risponde Francesco.

«Nemmeno io», aggiunge Anna.
«Ora spiego le regole e giochiamo», propone la maestra.
Tutti ascoltano con curiosità, mettendo in pratica
le indicazioni: lanciare il sasso sulla prima casella,
fare un salto su un piede solo, poi un altro...
Così la maestra decide di proseguire la lezione
all'aperto, facendo completare il gioco a tutti.



Il mattino dopo Chiara arriva a scuola con un volume sottobanco.
«Che cos'è?», chiedono i suoi compagni avvicinandosi incuriositi.
«È un libro di giochi. Qui dentro c'è anche quello
che abbiamo fatto ieri», spiega Chiara.
Matilde non sta più nella pelle: «Dove lo hai preso?»
«Èra nella soffitta di mia nonna, insieme ad altri oggetti del passato»
I bambini lo sfogliano con cura. Le pagine sono un po' ingiallite
e leggermente piegate agli angoli.
«Proviamo a fare qualche gioco?»
propone Francesco.

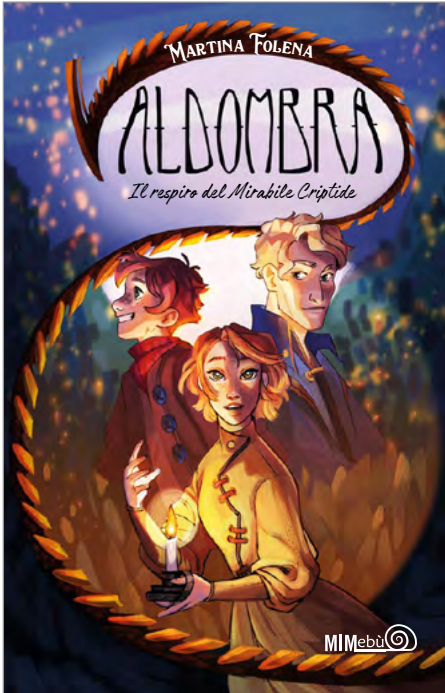
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Martina Folena



The Breath of The Wondrous Cryptid



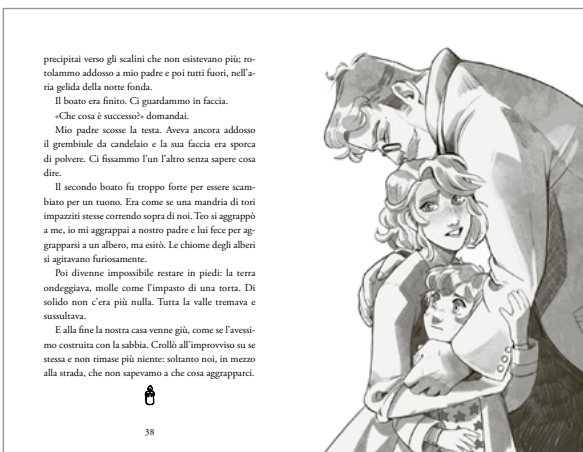
Format: cm 13 x 20 - Pages: 292 - Age: 9+
Hardcover

B/W illustrations: Greta Mainardi

Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

Before the catastrophe, Isadora Lucerna spent her days helping her father in his candle-making activity: a basic necessity for people living in Valdombra, wedged between mountains that obscure the sun. But one night the earth shakes, and the houses collapse without explanation. Clotilde the beekeeper reveals a near-forgotten legend: it is said that an ancient creature, the Wondrous Cryptid, lives under the earth, and its breath makes the ground tremble. Isa knows that no one will ever believe her, so she decides to act in secret: she finds herself forming an alliance with Anselmo, who seems to be hiding a secret, and her little brother Teo, who has always been too wise for his age. On their journey to find the Wondrous Cryptid, they will discover many things about Valdombra and themselves, and nothing will ever be the same again...

- For readers who loved *The Spiderwick Chronicles* and their atmosphere
- The book contains a map of Valdombra and a travel diary with 20 full-colour pages
- Each book in the series is self-contained and independent
- Finalist of the prestigious *Battello a Vapore Award* in 2019
- Rights sold in German



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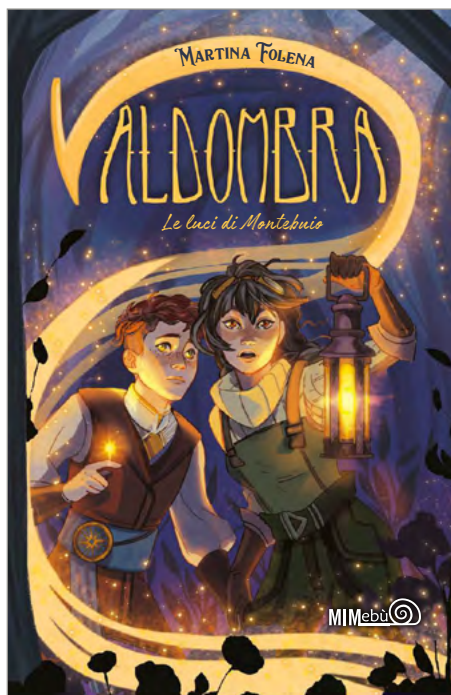
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Martina Folena



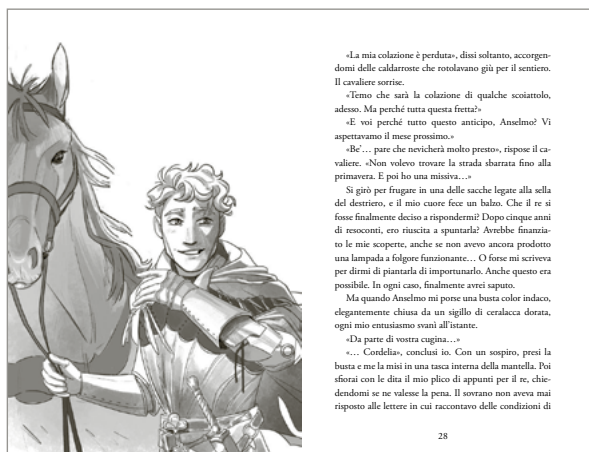
The Lights of Montebuio



Format: cm 13 x 20 - Pages: 356 - Age: 9+
Hardcover
B/W illustrations: Greta Mainardi
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

Montebuio is the most remote and isolated village in Valdombra, a valley wedged between mountains that obscure the sun. For years, no one has lit its ancient skylight tower, and only Guendalina Derocca, a brilliant and ambitious inventor, uses it to conduct her bizarre experiments. Yet one night the inhabitants of Montebuio are surprised by a strange glow coming from the tower. Could it be ghosts? Evil spirits? Guen is the only one brave enough to investigate. Accompanied by Teodorigo Lucerna, an expert on animals and insects, she discovers that thousands of fireflies have taken refuge at the top of the tower. It is a call for help: imprisoned in lanterns and chandeliers by the inhabitants of Valdombra, these creatures risk extinction, and seem determined to fight back. A catastrophe threatens the valley: will Teo and Guen be able to warn their fellow citizens before it is too late? Among new allies and old acquaintances, we return to the world of Valdombra, where it is no longer darkness but light that frightens...

- The book contains a map of Valdombra and an inventor's diary, with 20 full-colour pages inspired by the drawings of Leonardo da Vinci
- Second book in the series, self-contained and independent
- Rights sold in German



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Roberta Fasanotti

MISTER WRONGSKY

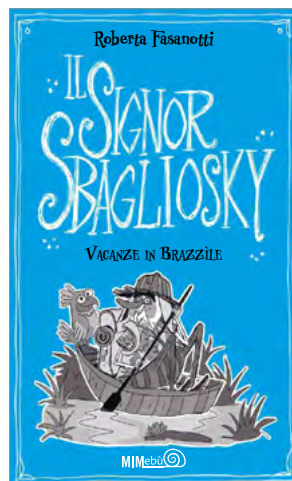
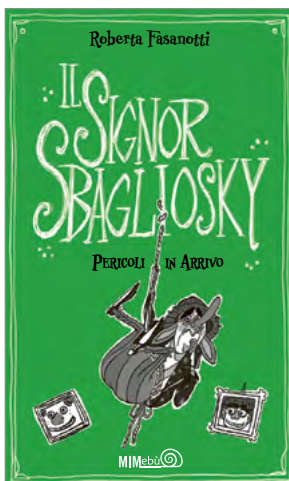


Format: cm 13 x 20 - Pages: 160/180 - Age: 8+
Hardcover
B/W illustrations: Marilisa Cotroneo
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

1. Mr Wrongsky
2. Incoming Danger
3. Vacation in Brazzil

Little Oswald suffers from an illness that is worse than chicken pox: sooner or later, the chicken pox will pass, but the 'all-perfect' complex will not! When it hits you, it can become your worst enemy... or perhaps your only friend. The boy is the best kid in school, but nobody talks to him. To make matters worse, his father, the terrible Baxter Crackchain, keeps calling him a klutz, while his mother never lets him out of her sight. In short, Oswald can't get anything right, but one night an insistent noise announces the arrival of a very strange little man, as big as a cricket: it's Mister Wrongsky! With his rather odd way of speaking, he will turn Oswald's childhood around. Thanks to him, Oswald will discover the pleasure of friendship, light-heartedness and the occasional cuddle that his grandmother used to give him.

- The book received the Caffè delle Arti Award in the section Children's books
- A book about friendship and the importance of mistakes: sometimes being less than perfect makes us unique
- Rights sold in Korean



disfazione ricevere le lodi dalle insegnanti, che lo invogliavano a continuare così. Purtroppo non succedeva lo stesso con il padre, incapace di regalare al figlio un qualsiasi gesto di approvazione. Proprio per questo, gli sforzi del bambino si erano moltiplicati nel tempo in modo impressionante, rendendolo ossessionato dalla perfezione. Leggeva e rileggeva il compito eseguito un numero spropositato di volte, fino al momento in cui lanciava in aria le braccia, in segno di trionfo.

«Ecco fatto!» gridava: aveva raggiunto il **tutto perfetto**.

Il padre di Arrigo si chiamava Panfilo Spezzacatene ed era un uomo dall'aspetto orrendo: lungo come un semaforo e magro da far paura, dal suo viso spuntava un naso grande e storto, di un colore violaceo.

Il signor Spezzacatene indossava sempre giacche scure, di una misura esagerata per lui. I pantaloni erano costantemente troppo corti e non riuscivano a coprire i peluzzi neri delle gambe.



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Mariachiara Lobefaro

MIXERS & MYSTERIES

BATTLE TO THE FINAL DISH



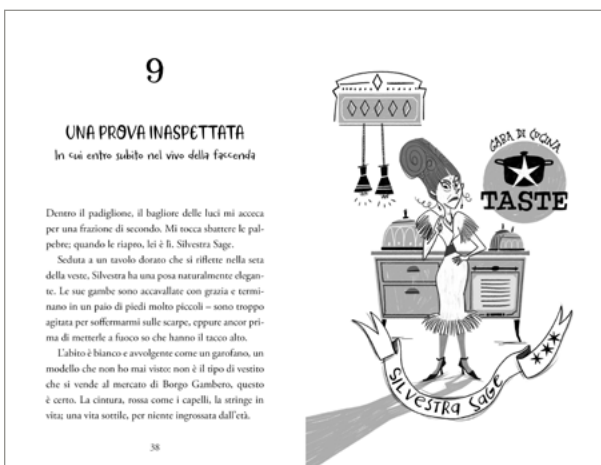
Format: cm 13 x 20 - Pages: 224 - Age: 9+
Hardcover

B/W illustrations: Francesca Carabelli

Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

Amandine Crumble has a dream. She wants to be a great chef, just like her hero Silvestra Sage, the Queen of the Steamer who's revered by chefs right around the world. That's why when she discovers that auditions for TASTE (Tournament for Artists of the Skillet, Tandoor, and Eggmaker) are going to be held not far from Shrimpton – the insignificant village where Amandine lives – she secretly leaves the inn where she works and signs up for the competition. She'll have to make it through three cooking tests to be judged by the greatest chefs on earth. And her opponents are a bunch of tough nuts, willing to do anything – including cheating and sabotage – to win. So, amid plots and betrayals, spices and sauces, Amandine will have to overcome both the other competitors and her own fears to triumph. But one of the participants has a secret and wants to get their hands on something far more precious than the final prize!

- For Masterchef fans, a novel full of plot twists!
- Humour and suspense intertwine in the kitchens of TASTE



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Eva Serena Pavan

OPERATION HEADLINES



Format: cm 13 x 20 - Pages: 168 - Age: 10+
Hardcover
B/W illustrations: Giulia Iori
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

The Willow Gang: this is the nickname given to the group of children who gather every day in the small square under the willow tree. The children have noticed that when their parents walk past the newsstand, they get angry or depressed. It's the fault of the newspapers, or rather, of the headlines displayed outside, shouting about wars, deaths, tragedies... But the gang has an idea: every morning the children sneak out to change the headlines, and the adults find themselves discussing strange events... But when the national football team loses the World Cup, the gang decides to correct the news... and, of course, gets caught. Will adults be able to explain to children the role of newspapers and the importance of spreading truthful information? And will the gang be able to find a solution to share those small positive stories that nobody notices?

- An ironic, funny story about the importance of information
- A book about children trying to change the world
- Rights sold in Traditional Chinese (Taiwan, HK and Macao) and Romanian



I bambini si guardarono l'un l'altro, colpiti da quella sensazionale scoperta.

Di solito se ne stavano sparpagliati qua e là per la piazzetta: Amina e Sofia a chiacchiere, Michele a palleggiare, Cora e Carlo chissà dove. Ma accadeva talvolta che, senza mettersi d'accordo, si ritrovassero tutti in cerchio sotto il salice, protetti da quella cupola di fronde. Così erano disposti quel giorno, lo ricordo bene. Avevano parlato a turno, con foga, e i rami del salice, mossi dal vento, sembravano sottolineare le loro parole.

Marsala, come me, li ascoltava inquieta. Forse sapeva già che cosa sarebbe successo. Difatti...

«Dobbiamo fare qualcosa!» sbottò Michele.

«Giusto!» rincarò Leonardo. «Rina deve smettere di attaccare quelle scritte! Altrimenti posso scordarmi le brioches per tutta la vita...»

«Ma cosa possiamo farci?» obiettò Amina.

«Non possiamo impedire ai nostri genitori di leggere i giornali.»

«Ma possiamo impedirgli di leggere i titoli!»
«E come?»

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salice, che è piccola ma sufficiente per giocare, litigare e far pace.

Per finire, tra l'edicola e la panchina abito io, Giuseppe Garibaldi in persona, insieme alla mia inseparabile cavalla Marsala. Scolpiti in elegante marmo rosa, con finiture in bronzo splendente, ce ne stiamo qui, notte e giorno, con il sole e con la pioggia, e teniamo d'occhio la piazzetta dall'alto del nostro piedistallo.

A dire il vero, non c'è molto da vedere... È un angolino della città dove non succede mai niente - almeno di solito. Ma a me e Marsala piace esattamente così: dopo aver combattuto centinaia di guerre in giro per il mondo, siamo stanchi di emozioni. Preferiamo starcene tranquilli, a guardare il via vai di bambini, adulti, cani, gatti e uccelli che frequentano la nostra cara piazzetta.

Non mi credete? Non credete che le statue abbiano pensieri e desideri... che siano vive, insomma?

Ma allora non sapete proprio niente! Noi statue, se siamo state costruite con amore, possiamo vedere, ascoltare, e qualche volta parlare. In

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casì eccezionali, possiamo addirittura muoverci! Io l'ho fatto solo una volta, durante il terremoto del... ma questa è un'altra storia, ve la racconterò la prossima volta.

Adesso torniamo alla Banda del Salice: erano in sei. Si conoscevano praticamente dalla culla, perché abitavano tutti nei palazzi lì attorno. Erano dei bambini normalissimi: appena finivano i compiti scendevano in piazzetta, dove giocavano a palla, si scambiavano le figurine, gironzolavano



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Eva Serena Pavan

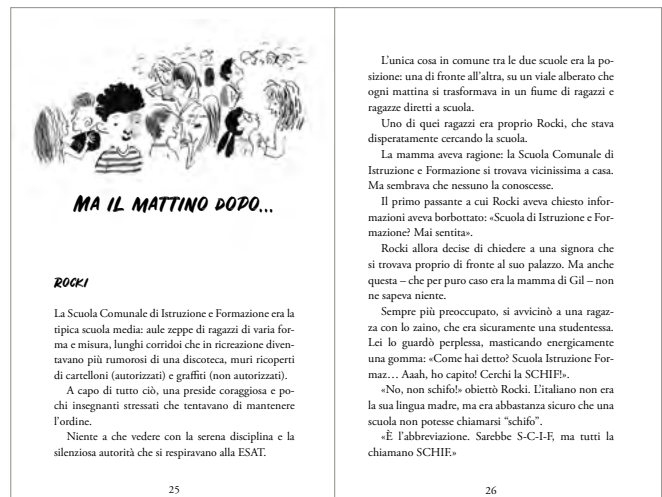
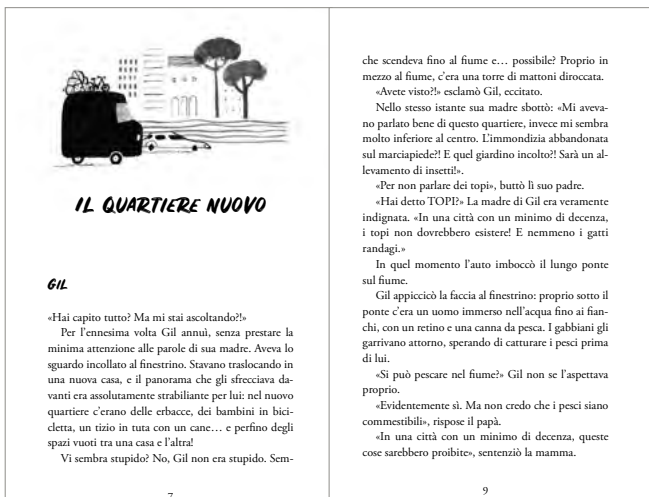
SCHOOL EXCHANGE



Format: cm 13 x 20 - Pages: 196 - Age: 10+
Hardcover
B/W illustrations: Sara Not
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

Gil and Rocki could not be more different. Gil is a young musician from a wealthy family, and will soon start attending a prestigious private institute for musical talents. Rocki, on the other hand, is the son of two hard-working immigrants and is enrolled at the local public school. But by a twist of fate, they find themselves in each other's school, without anyone noticing the mistake. So Rocki discovers an innate talent for drumming, and Gil awakens his creative spirit thanks to his new art teacher. The two boys have only one way to keep cultivating their passions: team up and make sure the grown-ups don't find out their secret!

- Finalist of the prestigious Battello a Vapore Award in 2021 and selected for the 2023 Premio Strega, kids section
- Illustrated by Sara Not, an Italian artist with a highly recognizable and unique style



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Fabiana Sarcuno

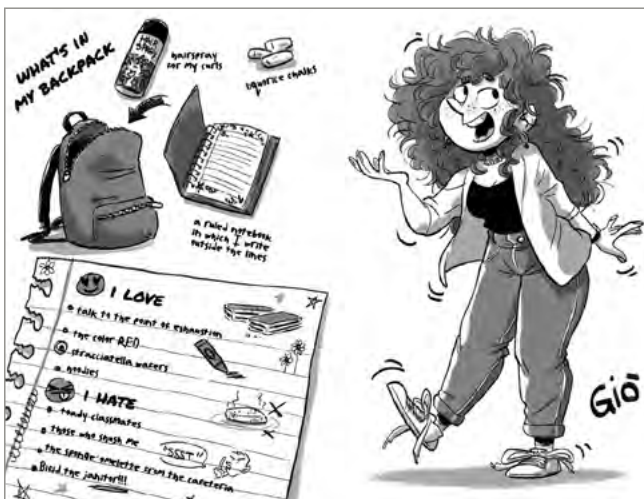
THE INSOLENTS' CLUB



Format: cm 13 x 20 - Pages: 240 - Age: 10+
Hardcover
B/W illustrations: Giulia Iori
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

Life at secondary school is anything but easy, especially if your best friends are a bit 'different', like Rita, who has recently moved to the city and feels like a fish out of water; or like Leo, a boy with Asperger's syndrome, brilliant and hypersensitive but awkward in relationships with his peers; Jana, who wants to become a footballer while her aunts give her ballerina tutus; and Jack, who from his wheelchair is always ready to support his friends. Their spokesperson is Giò, who is as cheeky as her red hair, chatty and combative. The Club's mission? To right the wrongs that its members suffer. To encourage them, Jack recounts the lives of four famous people who have succeeded despite the odds: Bebe Vio, Mama Africa, Satoshi Tajiri and J.K.Rowling.

- One of the 20 finalists of the prestigious Bancarellino Award
- A club in which diversity is wealth



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Lucia Giustini


DETECTIVE ORLANDO




Format: cm 13 x 20 - Pages: 208 - Age: 10+
Hardcover
B/W illustrations: Sonia Magrini
Published in Italy by MIMEbù - Mim Edizioni

Monteparduzzo is a forgotten town in the Apennines, a 'flat and monotonous' place, as Orlando describes it. He is 13 years old and has a dream of becoming a writer... a dream as distant as the high school he would like to attend. From one day to the next, everything changes: provincial life is upset by a series of tragic and suspicious events. A murderer in Monteparduzzo? Is that possible? Journalists and onlookers appear from everywhere, the police make no progress in their investigations and the mystery deepens. This is the right occasion for Orlando: there are all the ingredients to show his talent and write a detective story!

- A breathtaking thriller that will keep even the most fearless readers awake

 <p>Monteparduzzo</p> <p>Ed eccoci al quinto giorno, quello in cui guardo sul giornale l'articolo con la mia foto e il mio nome: "Orlando, un giovane amico dello scrittore deceduto nella frazione di Monteparduzzo".</p> <p>Adesso che ci ripenso mi stupisco di essere stato così intraprendente, sarà stata l'emozione del momento, ma quando due giorni fa ho visto quel giornalista in trattoria, che faceva domande in giro, non ho resistito e mi sono messo in mostra. Lo so, ho detto una bugia, ma piccola piccola. Ne è valsa comunque la pena.</p> <p>Porto la pagina del quotidiano a scuola per farla vedere ai compagni e ricevere qualche complimento e poi faccio leggere il primo capitolo a Pietro.</p> <p>Lui è l'unico amico con cui posso parlare di libri</p> <p>12</p>	<p>e scrittura, e che infatti mi aiuta col giornalino della scuola, anche se lo fa senza entusiasmo.</p> <p>Dice che "vecchio ubriacone" non è corretto nei confronti di un uomo morto tragicamente, e che dovrei scrivere "anziano dedito all'alcol". Io gli rispondo che non sarà corretto ma è vero, perché Ignazio detto Ortica beveva a tutte le ore, e poi che la letteratura è piena di scrittori vecchi ubriacconi e quindi è quasi un complimento.</p> <p>Una volta a casa, trovo i due romanzi di Farina, il primo e l'ultimo, quelli che ho ordinato su Internet appena ho scoperto che Ortica scriveva. Il corriere si è perso due volte e mia mamma ha dovuto recuperare il pacco in farmacia, in paese, perché ovviamente qui, a Monteparduzzo, non c'è la farmacia. Abbiamo solo il bar trattoria di Gigione, e dicono che siamo pure fortunati perché nelle frazioni vicine i bar hanno chiuso tre anni fa.</p> <p>Ne apro quindi per andare nel nostro unico luogo di ritrovo e come previsto ci becco Barbera, il compagno di bevute di Ortica, da qui il soprannome – pare che il Barbera sia un vino molto apprezzato da queste parti, e io che pensavo lo chiamassero così per via della barba. Barbera cerca di offrirmi un bicchiere di vino per brindare a non so bene cosa, ma Gigione si rifiuta e la Marisona gli strilla che è tutto matto.</p> <p>13</p>
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 <p>La prima neve</p> <p>Neve. La prima neve arriva quasi sempre a fine novembre, ma questa volta è inaspettata. Forse siamo stati tutti troppo presi dalla storia di Ortica per scintillarci avvicinare. Si tratta di un vento talmente particolare che non sono ancora uno scrittore così bravo da saperlo descrivere.</p> <p>A urlare sotto la mia finestra è stata Camilla, la figlia di Girasole.</p> <p>Cani ha dieci anni e, come dicono qui, "non è tutta a casa" – sanno essere davvero cattivi da queste parti. In realtà soffre di un disturbo che ha un nome davvero particolare, proprio come lei: la sindrome dell'X Fragile. Non sempre mi capisce quando le parlo ma a me non importa, la trovo comunque tenera e simpatica. E poi, come tutti quelli sotto ai</p> <p>26</p>	<p>trent'anni, ama follemente la neve.</p> <p>Sallevalo, scendo giù a festeggiare con lei.</p> <p>«Cinque minuti», dice mia madre, «ci giochi domani, che tanto questa attacca».</p> <p>Poi i minuti diventano nove.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Mamma aveva ragione: stamattina è tutto bianco.</p> <p>Vado a prendere il pulmino armato di palle di neve da lanciare addosso a Giovanni. Sì, qui da noi quando nevica si va a scuola, non succede come in città che si blocca tutto e gli studenti fanno festa.</p> <p>Però se c'è la neve, anche nella nostra scuola l'atmosfera è diversa.</p> <p>Pietro me ne dice di tutti i colori sul finale del mio terzo capitolo.</p> <p>«Non si lascia il lettore così in sospenso, non è corretto.»</p> <p>Com'è che devo continuamente spiegare al mio amico le regole basilari di un romanziere? Bisogna sempre dare al lettore uno stimolo per fargli girare pagina. Lo dice Ken Follet, mica Ignazio Farina detto Ortica! Scusa Ortica, se mi ascolti da lassù, ma i tuoi libri non mi appassionano. Però ho convinto mamma a leggerne almeno uno.</p> <p>27</p>
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Marco Dazzani

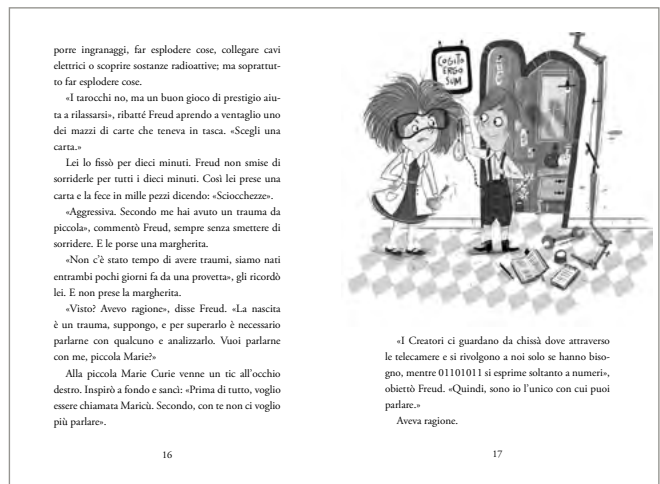
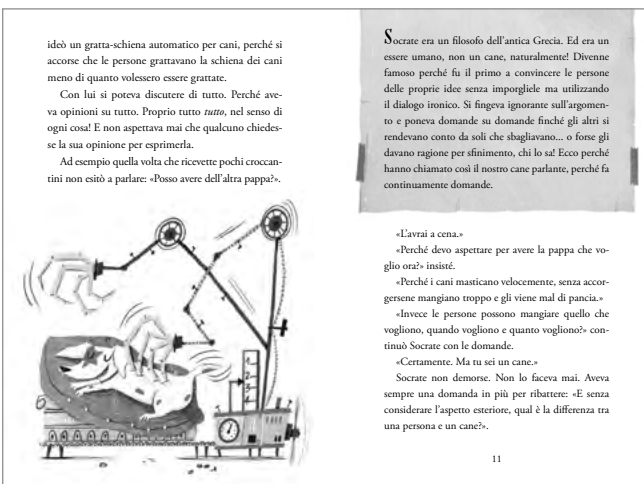
THE THINKERS AND THE ZOMBIE ARMY



Format: cm 13 x 20 - Pages: 152 - Age: 8+
Hardcover
B/W illustrations: Francesca Carabelli
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

There are questions that not even the greatest philosophers have been able to answer... so we might as well let the Thinkers have a go! Our team includes Socrates, a talking dog; the clones of Freud and Marie Curie, two children with a passion for explosions and magic tricks; Pythagoras, a computer that has all the answers; and finally the leader of the group, Jo, great-great-great... great-niece of Joan of Arc. Their first mission is to determine whether memories define who we are. How to do it? Obviously creating a zombie and conducting experiments with and without a brain. But waking the dead is never a good idea, and now an entire zombie army is ready to attack!

- With lots of scientific and philosophical trivia

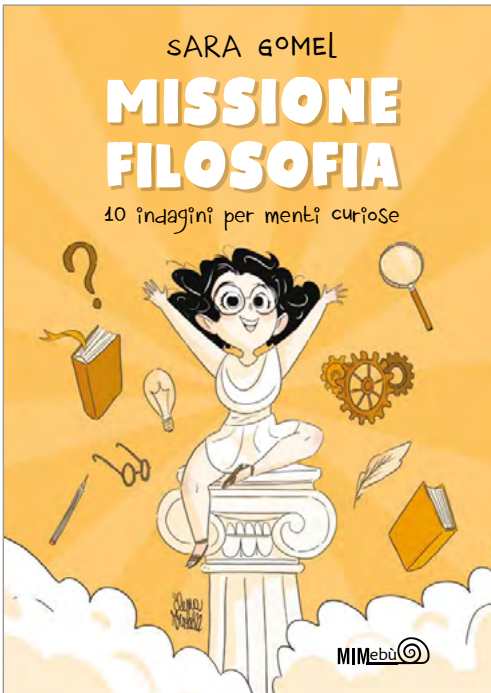


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Sara Gomel

MISSION PHILOSOPHY



Format: cm 14.5 x 20 - Pages: 176 - Age: 8+
Hardcover
Dual colour illustrations: Elena Triolo
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

Who are we? Where do we come from? And, most importantly, why do we ask so many questions? These and many others are the doubts that buzz around in children's heads, and philosophy can perhaps offer – if not definitive answers – at least some food for thought. But there are lots of philosophers, and they're often grumpy and difficult. So what better way to navigate the chaos of philosophical questions than with this small and nifty handbook? Accompanied by the wise Artemisia Arché-Omega, professor of Ancient Sapientology, you will face challenges, quizzes, games and fun experiments that will allow you to unravel the greatest mysteries of existence.

A book that intrigues, questions, shows and hides. All told in a light-hearted and ironic tone by the author!

- Ten investigations for curious minds, each with philosophical experiments and challenges to do at home, alone or with friends
- The handbook is full of illustrations, explanatory tidbits and comics
- Rights sold in Turkish



Rosa Tiziana Bruno

KAIRÒS

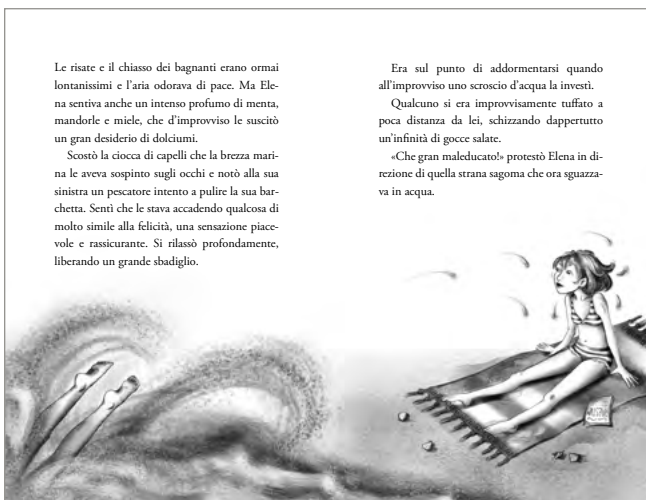
A DAY IN MAGNA GRAECIA



Format: cm 13 x 20 - Pages: 216 - Age: 8+
Hardcover
B/W illustrations: Natascha Stolz
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

Helen lives in the twenty-first century, Philippos in the fourth century BC. How could they ever meet? Simple! Through a magical cave hidden deep in the Mediterranean that allows them to travel through time. Dive into ancient Poseidonia, now Paestum, and get to know a culture that is not so different from our own, but which has much to teach us. Phil invites us to discover the ideas, customs and habits of an ancient civilisation, immersing us in the everyday life of Magna Graecia. We meet philosophers and thinkers, but also women who dream of a better future. And we will learn to seize the moment, the unrepeatable and precious instant that cannot be measured: the KAIRÒS.

- In collaboration with the Archaeological Park of Paestum and Velia
- Two maps for visiting the Archaeological Park
- Introduction by Edwige Chirouter (UNESCO Chair of Philosophy for Children)
- Special mention at Acqui Storia Prize 2021



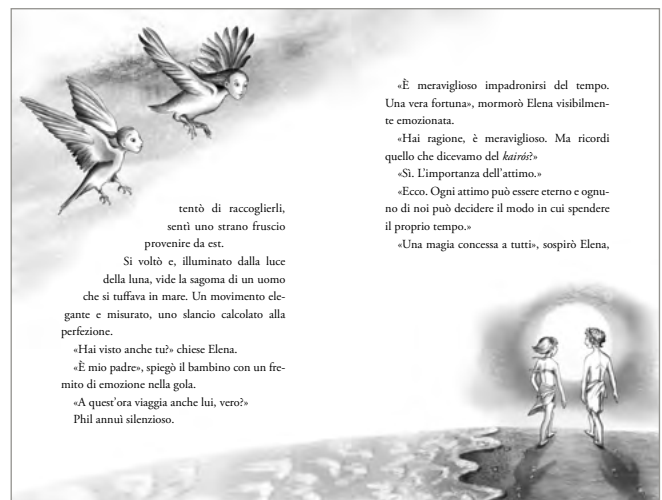
Le risate e il chiasso dei bagnanti erano ormai lontanissimi e l'aria odorava di pace. Ma Elena sentiva anche un intenso profumo di menta, mandorle e miele, che d'improvviso le suscitò un gran desiderio di dolciumi.

Scostò la ciocca di capelli che la brezza marina le aveva sospinto sugli occhi e notò alla sua sinistra un pescatore intento a pulire la sua barchetta. Sentì che le stava accadendo qualcosa di molto simile alla felicità, una sensazione piacevole e rassicurante. Si rilassò profondamente, liberando un grande sbadiglio.

Era sul punto di addormentarsi quando all'improvviso uno scroscio d'acqua la investì.

Qualcuno si era improvvisamente tuffato a poca distanza da lei, schizzando dappertutto un'infinità di gocce salate.

«Che gran maleducato!» protestò Elena in direzione di quella strana sagoma che ora sguzzava in acqua.



«È meraviglioso impadronirsi del tempo. Una vera fortuna», mormorò Elena visibilmente emozionata.

«Hai ragione, è meraviglioso. Ma ricordi quello che dicevamo del *kairòs*?»
«Sì. L'importanza dell'attimo.»

«Ecco. Ogni attimo può essere eterno e ognuno di noi può decidere il modo in cui spendere il proprio tempo.»

«Una magia concessa a tutti», sospirò Elena.

tentò di raccoglierti, sentì uno strano fruscio provenire da est.

Si voltò e, illuminato dalla luce della luna, vide la sagoma di un uomo che si tuffava in mare. Un movimento elegante e misurato, uno slancio calcolato alla perfezione.

«Hai visto anche tu?» chiese Elena.
«È mio padre», spiegò il bambino con un fremito di emozione nella gola.

«A quest'ora viaggia anche lui, vero?»
Phil annuì silenzioso.

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Nicola Zippel

IRIS

FELL DOWN THE WELL



Format: cm 13 x 20 - Pages: 164 - Age: 8+
Hardcover
B/W illustrations: Valeria De Caterini
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

Philosophy... What a strange word. What does it mean? It sounds like complicated, grown-up stuff. And yet philosophy is born from the capacity to wonder, nourished by curiosity, the absence of prejudices and constant questions. And, as we know, children have a lot of questions! Here is Iris, eight years old and with thousands of doubts running through her head. But who will have the right answers? A young philosopher accompanies her on a walk through philosophy. Iris will have the chance to meet Heraclitus, Parmenides, Socrates, Plato and above all Thales, who is so focused on observing the stars in search of answers that he accidentally falls into a well! And so that well becomes the symbol of curiosity, the only way to knowledge.

- A book that pays tribute to all those "whys?" every child asks



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READ AND LISTEN

IN UPPERCASE



Format: cm 14 x 18 - Pages: 48 - Age: 6+
Paperback with flaps
Full-colour illustrations by Various Artists
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

1. The Restaurant in the Wood
2. What an Evil Cat
3. A Soup Fit for Kings
(coming soon)

What an Evil cat

Flavio, Sara and Ismail have a problem: their playground has been taken over by a monster who steals people's snacks, scratches and gets up to mischief. He has a dirty and untidy tail, sharp claws and teeth, green eyes that glow in the dark... He's an evil cat! The three children have come up with the perfect plan to get rid of him for good... But is this cat really evil? Maybe he just wants to play and wants someone to care about him.

The Restaurant in the Wood

Every Saturday the forest is flooded by a delicious smell: the smell of wet socks, green cheese and dragon's breath. It is Gloria's world-famous soup, which she is preparing to welcome her guests to her restaurant. All the woodland dwellers line up to taste it. But what is the secret ingredient? Maybe pondweed? Or maybe beech bark? The waiters are bunglers and things often don't go as they should, but luckily Gloria's soup always puts everyone in a good mood.

- Entertaining stories to learn to appreciate new flavours or to raise readers' awareness about the issue of animal abandonment and care



This series offers a reading experience that breaks down the barriers of the paper book. Each volume is divided into four sections: "Read and Listen" includes a story written in uppercase, with highly readable letters; "Read and Discover" includes interesting scientific and historical information; "Read and Play" is filled with crosswords, quizzes, mazes and crossword puzzles; "I read and create" helps to develop children's creativity thanks to workshops and activities.

READ AND LISTEN IN LOWERCASE



Format: cm 14 x 18 - Pages: 48 - Age: 6+
Paperback with flaps
Full-colour illustrations: Giulia Cregut
Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

1. You Did It, Super Me!
2. At School with Super Me
3. Super Me and Super Mia

At School with Super Me

The life of a superhero isn't easy: it takes a lot of effort to help others and not let life's challenges get you down. For example, on my first day of school, I was so scared that I made up a thousand excuses why I couldn't go. Luckily, I had my animal friends with me, and I was able to count on new friends. In the end, school isn't that bad at all!

You Did It, Super Me!

Being a superhero is not easy: you have to help others and learn not to be selfish... but luckily every self-respecting superhero has allies! I always carry them with me, in my fanny pack. The giraffe helps me to see beyond obstacles, the hare advises me on how not to get into trouble, the hippo can swallow all my problems with his big mouth, when I have a bad day.

- *Ferdinando Albertazzi is one of the most important Italian authors for children and young people and author of Camilla, a series translated in several countries*



This series offers a reading experience that breaks down the barriers of the paper book. Each volume is divided into four sections: "Read and Listen" includes a story written in lowercase, with highly readable letters; "Read and Discover" includes interesting scientific and historical information; "Read and Play" is filled with cross-words, quizzes, mazes and crossword puzzles; "I read and create" helps to develop children's creativity thanks to workshops and activities.

READ ME FIRST



Format: cm 14 x 21 - Pages: 240
 Paperback with flaps
 Cover by Paola Formica
 Published in Italy by MIMebù - Mim Edizioni

Approaching the world of children's literature means being faced with an endless horizon, encompassing different formats, functions, languages, audiences and qualities. Parents, disoriented by a boundless wealth of books, often seek advice on social networks.

This book combines the author's professional expertise as a bookseller and trainer with her experience as a mother, and is a guide both for passionate parents who have already chosen to raise a child in the world of books, and for those who need guidance.

Why raise a child with books? What choices are available? What are the rights of the child in the world of books and in life? How do emotions work in stories? What are children's real needs, and how can books be valuable allies in recognising and fulfilling them?

To answer these questions, the author will try to draw attention not to the future benefits of shared reading, but to the values through which you can build an open, free and happy relationship with your children in the present.

- The book includes a QR CODE that links to a web page full of videos, interviews and other content

con l'interpretazione data: i primi diranno "Mi piace! Accidenti, altri venti euro spesi". Gli altri penseranno "No, grazie" e accenderanno la Tv.

Ora, sostituiamo l'input visivo (la parola "LIBRO") con uno stimolo *adattivo*: che tipo di interpretazione e reazione avrete nel sentir pronunciare il vostro nome dalla professionista che sta scegliendo chi interrogare a sorpresa? E ancora, sostituite lo stimolo con uno *aromatizzato* – una coccola, o piuttosto una carezza fuori luogo? – oppure *olfattivo* – trovate che quello della benzina sia un profumo o un odore sgradevole?

Il punto è che questo processo di *inpar-elaborazione-creazione* nella lettura di uno stimolo visivo con la parola scritta è esattamente lo stesso che mettiamo in atto per leggere qualsiasi altro stimolo sensoriale dal quale veniamo raggiunti.

È dunque sempre vero che leggere significa:

- **Raccogliere input sensoriali** dal mondo circostante;
- **Elaborarli**, ovvero integrarli nella nostra rete di esperienze pregresse – memorie, credenze e valori, emozioni, pensieri –, dando poi un significato soggettivo di bene/male, giusto/sbagliato, bello/brutto, amico/enemico;
- **Regiare di conseguenza**, in modo più o meno consapevole, ma sempre coerente con l'interpretazione data.

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Observate ora questa immagine, tratta da *Il Dentro me'*, straordinario e illuminante albo di Alex Coussseau e Kitty Crowther.

Fig. 1: A. Coussseau, K. Crowther, *Dentro me'*, Tappanini, Milano 2007.

Anche questo è uno stimolo visivo che raggiunge i nostri occhi, leggibile perché ci mette nella posizione di dover dare un significato e reagire di conseguenza, spalancando le porte ai diversi piani di interpretazione della nostra mente: chi è questo personaggio? Sta andando avanti o indietro? Che sensazione trasmette? Cosa starà succedendo?

Le figure, come le parole, sono input sensoriali che il nostro cervello legge, ancor prima e con più immediatezza rispetto ai grafemi. Ecco perché gli albi illustrati, di cui a breve andremo

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Se leggo libri insieme a mio figlio fin dalla gravidanza è possibile, addirittura *prodabile*, ma non certo, che parlerà prima e meglio, che sarà più abile nel creare connessioni tra idee, che avrà una più spiccata intelligenza emotiva, che sarà più disposto all'ascolto, che si affezionerà ai libri e leggerà come un maturo per tutta la vita. Ecco la mia domanda: e se così non fosse?

Noi genitori desideriamo offrire le migliori opportunità ai nostri figli, mirando spesso ad aspettare l'ottimismo nel tempo, e distogliendo lo sguardo dall'unico momento e figlio "scade" che abbiamo di fronte: quello di oggi. Creare le condizioni perché qualcosa che consideriamo sulle e importante avvenga è ben diverso dall'aspettarsi che debba necessariamente accadere.

E se ci allontaniamo dall'obiettivo – ma non dal piacere che ne deriverebbe qualora dovesse succedere – di leggere insieme perché così può mio figlio far qualcosa prima e meglio? E se scegliessimo questo gesto d'amore per creare *adesso* un territorio di condivisione con il piccolo, in un clima di sincerità, libertà e apertura, privo di aspettative e posizioni sul futuro? E se, soprattutto, riportassimo l'attenzione sul benessere non soltanto del bambino, ma della *relazione* con lui, coinvolgendo anche noi adulti nelle cose importanti di cui prendersi cura?

Così facendo il momento della lettura condivisa diventa *uno dei modi* (non il solo) che possiamo (non dobbiamo) scegliere, per assicurare ai bambini l'accesso a diritti volentieri come quello alle storie, offrendo loro con fiducia e gentilezza *cibo buono per l'anima*.

1.3 Cosa succede nel momento della lettura condivisa?

Quando pensiamo di leggere insieme ai bambini, questo è il quadro che più facilmente compare nella nostra immaginazione:

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Fig. 2: K. O'Connell George, M. Smith, *Libro!*, trad. it. di R. Valentino Morelli, Interfinca, Novara 2006.

Osservando questa immagine tratta dall'albo *Libro!*, di Kristine O'Connell George, riconosciamo che, nel territorio della lettura condivisa – in quell'attimo, in quel luogo –, gli elementi in gioco sono principalmente tre (giusto a parte): l'adulto, il libro, il bambino. Chi è che fa da mediatore a chi?

L'adulto fa da mediatore tra il libro e il bambino, perché glielo propone.

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