

The
Ella Sher
Literary Agency



Autumn
Catalogue
2023

authors

Afonso Reis Cabral (Portuguese)
Alex Chico (Spanish)
Alexis Ravelo (Spanish)
Ana Luísa Amaral (Portuguese)
Aixa de la Cruz (Spanish)
Agus Morales (Spanish)
Berta Dávila (Galician)
Carolina Montoto (Catalan)
Cristina Morales (Spanish)
Daniel Moyano (Argentinean)
Enrique Díaz Álvarez (Spanish)
Gabriela Ybarra (Spanish)
Hasier Larretxea (Spanish)
Irati Elorrieta (Basque)
Ismael Ramos (Galician)
Joana Bértholo (Portuguese)
Jon Bilbao (Spanish)
Jordi Ballart (Catalan)
Jordi Llobregat (Spanish)
Juan Gómez Bárcena (Spanish)
Julia Viejo (Spanish)
Karmele Jaio (Basque)
Katixa Agirre (Basque)
Kike Cherta (Spanish)
Manuela Partearroyo (Spanish)
Mar Gómez Glez (Spanish)
Marc Pastor (Catalan)
Margarita Leoz (Spanish)
Maria Judite de Carvalho (Portuguese)
María Folguera (Spanish)
Marta Jiménez Serrano (Spanish)
Nerea Loiola Pikaza (Basque)
Oihane Amantegi (Basque)
Rosa Ribas (Spanish)
Sergio del Molino (Spanish)
Sergi Ganau (Basque)
Toni Hill (Spanish)
Victor Balcells Matas (Spanish)
Virginia Mendoza (Spanish)
Xesús Fraga (Galician)
Xita Rubert (Spanish)

clients

Editorial Minúscula, Spain
(for Italy)

Edizioni E/O, Italy
(for Spain, Latin America, Portugal & Brazil)

Sellerio Editore, Italy
(for Spain, Latin America, Portugal & Brazil)

MalaTesta Literary Agency, Italy
(for Spain, Latin America, Portugal & Brazil)

Nottetempo, Italy
(for Spain, Latin America & Brazil)

Carmen Prestia Agenzia Letteraria, Italy
(for Spain, Latin America, Portugal & Brazil)

Pietrosanti Agenzia Letteraria, Italy
(for Spain, Latin America, Portugal & Brazil)

Il Saggiatore, Italy
(for Spain, Latin America, Portugal & Brazil)

Sabine Wespieser éditeur, France
(for Spain, Latin America, Portugal & Italy)

Agentur Literatur Gudrun Hebel, Germany
(for Italy)

Agência Riff, Brazil
(for Italy)

Luciana Villas-Boas Agência Literaria, Brazil
(for Spain, Latin America & Italy)

BAM Agency - Books And More, France
(for Spain, Latin America & Portugal)

Éditions Les Arènes, France
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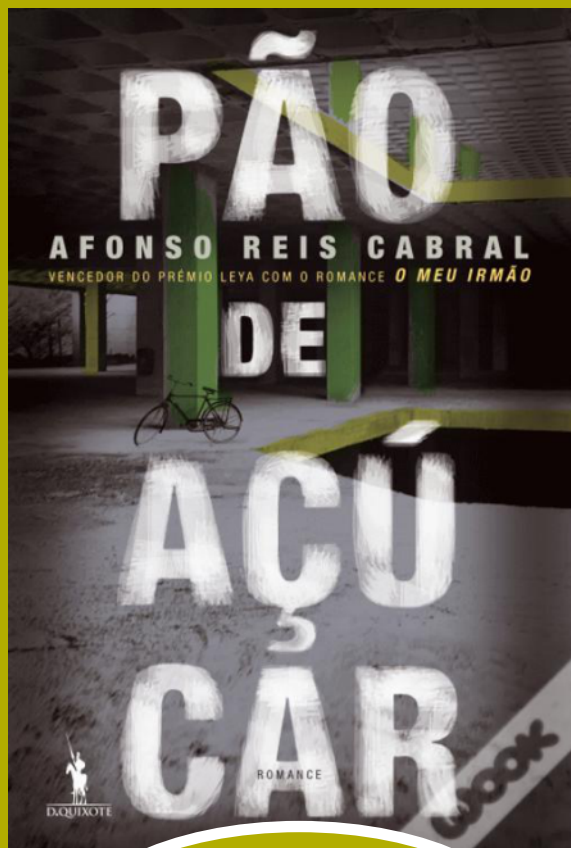


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The
Ella Sher
Literary Agency

Afonso Reis Cabral



2019
*José Saramago
Literary Prize*

Afonso Reis Cabral (1990) published at the age of fifteen the poetry book *Condensation*. He has a degree in Portuguese and Lusophone Studies, a master's degree in the same field and a post-graduate degree in Fiction Writing. He went twice to Germany in search of a story, the first time at the age of thirteen. He worked in a cowshed, in a tourism office and in a bookstore.

In 2014, he won the LeYa Prize for his novel *O Meu Irmão*, which is in translation in Spain and Italy and has already been published in Brazil. He has contributed dozens of texts to the most varied publications. In 2017, he was awarded the David Mourão-Ferreira European Prize in the category of Promise. He currently works as a freelance editor. In his spare time, he dedicates himself to ornithology, scuba diving and boxing.

A masterful combination of facts and fiction, with real and imaginary characters meticulously drawn, which confirms the talent and literary maturity of Afonso Reis Cabral

Pão de Açúcar

First Publisher:

Dom Quixote - Leya (Portugal)

Details: **September 2018, 264 pages**

Rights sold to:

Spain (Acantilado)

Germany (Hanser Verlag)

Brazil (HarperCollins Brazil)

In February 2006, the Porto Fire Department rescued from the well of an abandoned building a body with aggression marks and naked from the waist down. The victim, who was ill and had taken refuge in that basement, had been beaten for several days by a group of teenagers, some of whom were only twelve years old.

Ralph had found the place in one of his usual raids on slums and that kind of tent immediately aroused his interest. Then, divided between attraction and repulsion, he asked himself whether he should keep the secret to himself or share it with his friends. But what is the value of a treasure that cannot be shown?

A vertiginous novel about a true case that shook the country, a fascinating incursion into the lives of a victim and her aggressors

Afonso Reis Cabral

My Brother O Meu Irmão

First Publisher: **Leya (Portugal)**

Details: **November 2014, 368 pages**

Rights sold to:

Spain (Acantilado)

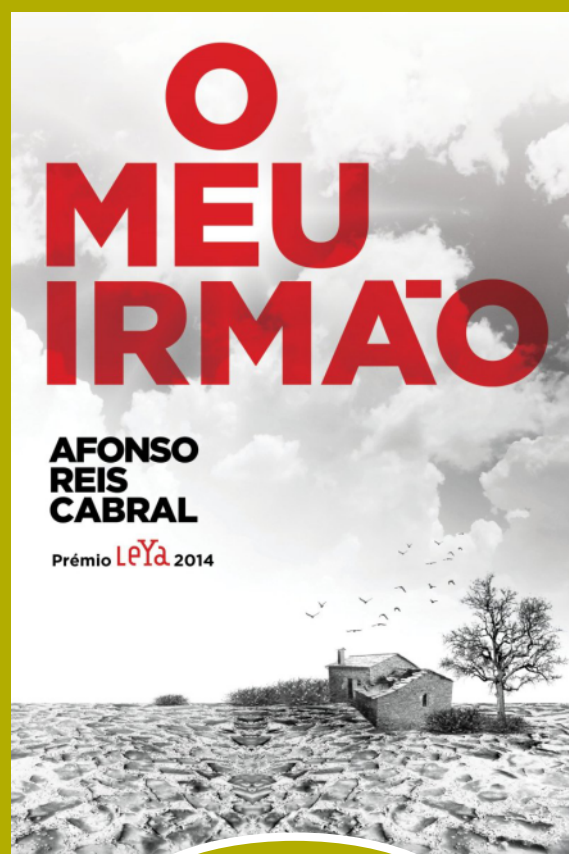
Italy (Nutrimenti)

When his parents die, it is necessary to decide who will take care of Miguel, a 40-year-old born with Down syndrome. Surprisingly, his older brother, a divorced and misanthropic university professor who has been away from his family and his native Porto for many years, steps forward.

He will take care of him, strong in the memory of the affection that tied them up during childhood and that he hopes can free him from the apathy into which his life has fallen, as well as from the sense of guilt for the long detachment and the indifference shown towards his family.

In the ancestral silence of a rural and depopulated Portugal, the man retraces the entire development of their fraternal relationship, until the dramatic episode that left a definitive mark in the lives of both.

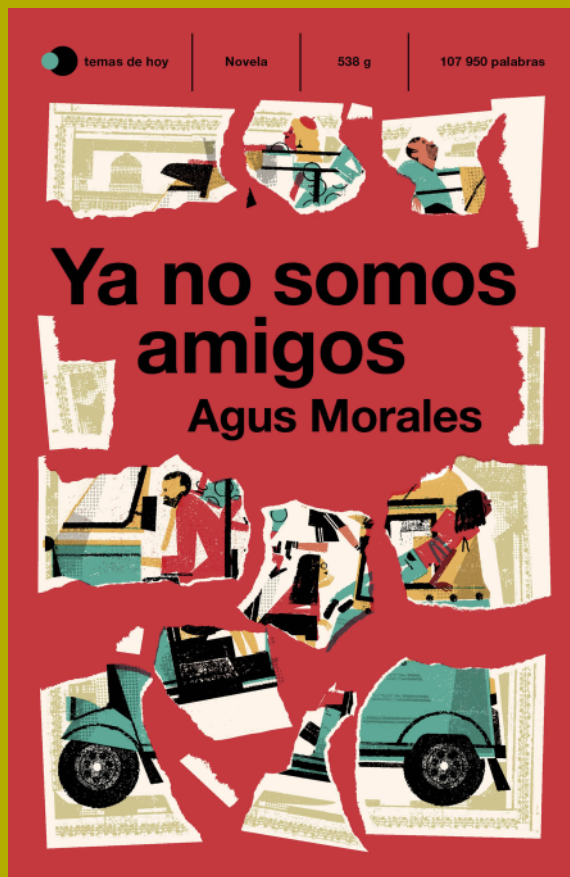
As if that were not enough, living with Miguel will reveal unexpected problems, the biggest of which is called Luciana.



2014
Premio LeYa

A novel of great maturity, which strikes in its writing and tackles without sentimentality, but rather with lucid, sometimes merciless traits, themes such as disability and the contradictions of being siblings

Agus Morales



Agus Morales (Barcelona, 1983) has been reporting on the ground and writing about conflict and migration for more than fifteen years. He has worked for Médecins Sans Frontières and as an EFE correspondent in India and Pakistan. He currently runs the narrative journalism magazine and website 5W. He has contributed to The New York Times, among other media, and has published several non-fiction books: *El viejo periodismo*, with Martín Caparrós; *Cuando todo se derrumba* and *No somos refugiados*; the latter translated into English, Italian, Polish and Catalan. He won the Ortega y Gasset Prize for his chronicle *Los muertos que me habitan*.

We're Not Friends Anymore

Ya no somos amigos

First Publisher:

Temas de Hoy (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **February 2022, 416 pages**

The survival of the group depended on the zeal with which each of its members kept its secrets. Friendship and power are a matter of energy. The *panchayat* is an assembly of five people. A council that, in some parts of India, still dictates the rules of daily life today. What if the world were actually made up of small *panchayats* that build our hierarchies?

Vikram is obsessed with his caste and making money. Batasema is a Congolese woman who wants to subvert the capitalist order. Amani is called to join Pakistani's great political dynasty. Tiffany makes it big in Hollywood with her Indian-inspired screenplays. Omar is a hustler proud to live and work in El Prat de Llobregat. They have met at different times in chaotic Delhi and have become friends, although the five have never met at the same time. They form their own particular *panchayat*, a carnival of genders, cultures and ideologies with their own laws and loyalties, a *panchayat* that now has to exercise its power of decision. The date is Holi, the Indian festival of colours. The time has come to come together.

Alberto Rojas, El Mundo

Martin Caparrós

Aixa de la Cruz



English, German and Italian
samples available

Aixa de la Cruz (Bilbao, 1988) is the author of the book of short stories *Animal Models* (Salto de Página, 2015), the hybrid essay *Diccionario en guerra* (La Caja Books, 2018) and the novels *De música ligera* (451 Editores, 2009), *La línea del frente* (Salto de Página, 2017), and *Cambiar de idea* (Caballo de Troya, 2019). She is a winner of the Librotea Prize and the Euskadi Prize for Literature 2020. She has been included in the 10 out of 30 list and forms part of the European European internationalisation project CELA. Her work has been translated into English, Italian and Portuguese.

The Heiresses Las herederas

First Publisher:

Alfaguara (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **September 2022, 328 pages**
3rd edition!

Rights sold to:

Portugal (Dom Quixote)

Brazil (DBA Editora)

Italy (Fandango Libri)

Arabic (Aser Al-Kotob)

TV/Film Rights (Alea Media)

Six months have passed since grandmother Carmen opened her veins in the bathtub, without a psychiatric record, without a suicide note and after having taken, like any other day, her heart pills. Now, her four granddaughters are returning to the house in the village where she died, because they have inherited it and have to decide what to do with it.

During the week that Erica, Nora, Olivia and Lis will spend in this house that now belongs to them, they will face a fear that, openly or unconsciously, the four of them share: that their true inheritance is none other than madness, like one of those genes that jump from grandmothers to granddaughters.

The Heiresses is a thrilling, profound novel that is as relevant to the present as it is capable of becoming a classic of our time. Its main themes are family and motherhood, work and money, madness and sanity. Its dialogue and scenes compose a vivid, narrated reflection, embodied in four characters who separately are perfectly plausible characters, and together compose a hive mind that processes an entire society and an entire life.

Aixa de la Cruz

*2020 Euskadi Prize for
Literature written in Spanish*

Changing My Mind Cambiar de idea

First Publisher:
Caballo de Troya (Penguin RH)

Details: **February 2019. 160 pages**

Rights sold:
Portugal (Dom Quixote)
Brazil (Âyné)
Italy (Giulio Perrone Editore)

*10th
edition*

*Shortlisted for the
European Strega Award*



English sample available



The Front Line La línea del frente

First Publisher:
Editorial Salto de Página (Spain & Latin America)

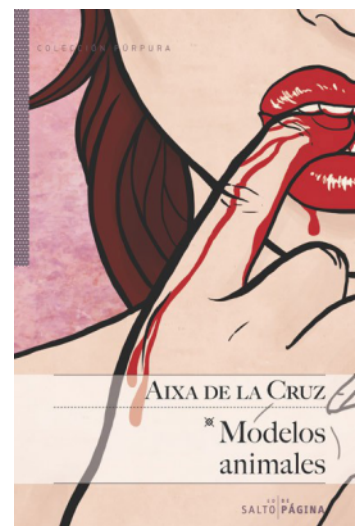
Details: **September 2017, 184 pages**

Rights sold: **Italy (Giulio Perrone Editore)**

Animal Models Modelos animales

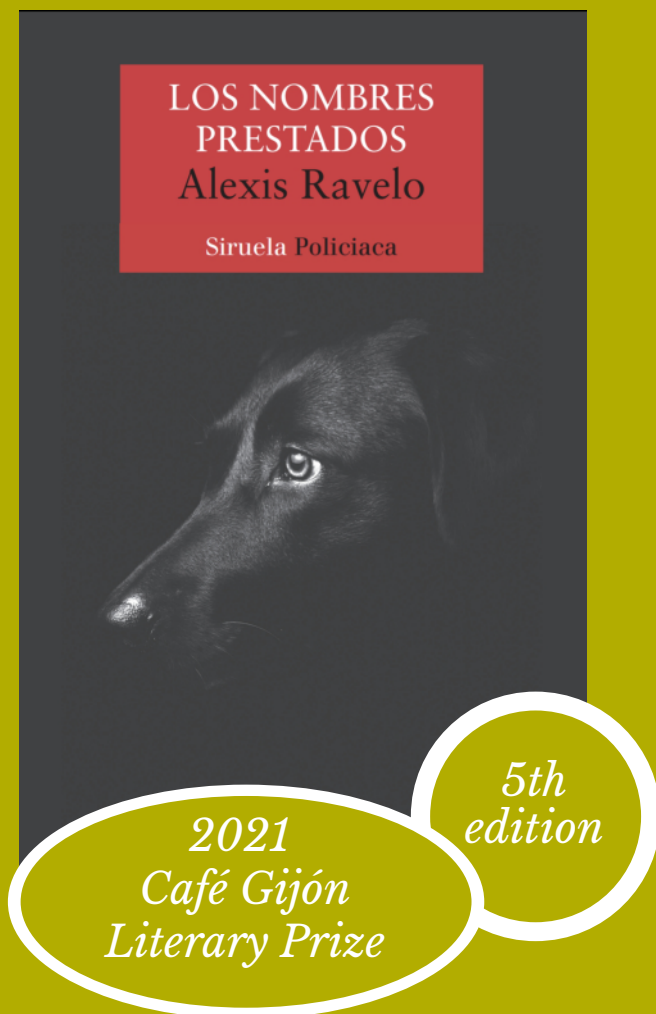
First Publisher:
Editorial Salto de Página (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **March 2015, 144 pages**
Short stories



English sample available

Alexis Ravelo



Full English translation available

*«A very well-structured novel that uses an omniscient narrator to tackle such important underlying themes as identity, forgiveness, redemption and truth»
from the Jury's Report*

Alexis Ravelo (Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, 1971 - 2023) studied pure philosophy and attended creative workshops given by Mario Merlino, Augusto Monterroso and Alfredo Bryce Echenique. A playwright, author of three books of short stories and several books for children and teenagers, he has managed to stand out on the current narrative scene thanks to the solidity of his novels, especially his detective novels, which have won him several awards, including the prestigious Hammett Prize for the best crime novel in Spanish for *La estrategia del pequinés*.

A novel about pain and guilt, about memory and redemption, a reflection on the gangrene that lurks in every open wound

Borrowed Names Los nombres prestados

First Publisher:

Siruela (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **March 2022, 280 pages**

5th edition

Tomás Laguna could very well be a retired insurance broker who has come to Nidocuervo to enjoy his retirement in peace and quiet in the company of his dog Roco. And Marta Ferrer could pass for a translator who has found in the village the ideal place to live in peace with her son Abel. But the truth is that both are insomniac executioners who have arrived in this corner of the world with borrowed names, pretending that they are not who they have been until recently. However, the balance between reality and fiction that each has chosen for themselves is so fragile that events as fortuitous as a storm or the choice of a photo for the front page of a newspaper will resurrect the ghosts of the past, bringing back into their lives a violence they had hoped to have left behind forever.

Set in the mid-1980s, *Borrowed Names* is a story of action and suspense, a modern western, a noir novel that also functions as an allegory that explores the causes and consequences of political violence, the link between victims and executioners, and the obligatory stops that must be made by those who travel the tortuous road to redemption.

TV/Film Rights optioned

Alexis Ravelo

«Alexis Ravelo is unique in his approach to the crime genre. In this novel he offers a different point of view and a bold use of narrative time that works at all times.»

(Juan Carlos Galindo, El País)

Time Lapse

Un tío con una bolsa en la cabeza

First Publisher:

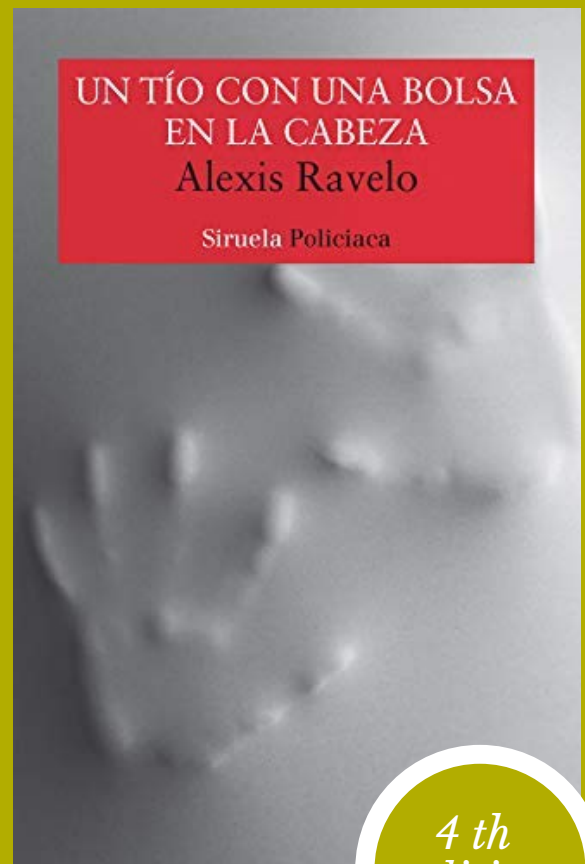
Siruela (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **September 2020, 244 pages**

4th Edition

Time Lapse talks about a guy with a bag on his head, and that guy is Gabriel Sánchez Santana – Gabrielo to his friends –, the corrupt mayor of the no less corrupt municipality of San Expósito, who has been left handcuffed with his head in a rubbish bag by two strangers after he was mugged in his own house. With no possibility of freeing himself or asking for help, condemned, except by chance or miracle, to death by asphyxiation, Gabrielo will devote his last moments to trying to find out who the assailants are and whether they were acting on their own or following the orders of a third party. In this way, as he looks back on a life of selfishness, ambition and disloyalty, he will become the peculiar investigator of his own murder even before its accomplishment.

This claustrophobic and violent text is, besides a powerful and singular crime novel whose codes Ravelo manages and deconstructs, a lucid memory of the Spanish political and economic life in the last decades, a story of lost opportunities and truncated relationships that also works as an incisive ethical enquiry about justice, loyalty and forgiveness



*4th
edition*

«Ravelo is one of the leading figures in crime fiction today. He is a writer who likes to get dirty, to deal with the murkiest subjects.»
(Paula Corroto, El Confidencial)

«It is impossible to condense everything in a single sentence into everything that this great novel is. What the reader should do is jump into it without hesitation.»
(Marta Marne, El Periódico)

Alexis Ravelo



A brilliant author who set the standard for a new style in detective novels and was a milestone in Canarian literature.
Ediciones Siruela

// A Canarian author who boasts of his islands and projects them to the outside world; an author who portrays, openly and without prejudice, the island of Gran Canaria, its different municipalities, and the city of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria and its inhabitants. This is a writer who is truly proud to be able to give his city, the city where he was born and grew up, a more realistic image and one that brings it closer to the world as it really is, not just as an idyllic city."

Raquel Ortiz, Academia Canaria de La Lengua

// In addition to his great literary work, Ravelo was a cultural activist in all areas. He gave workshops and writing classes. He was also active in radio, television, press and advertising. Last year he was named favourite son of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria and was a member of the Academia Canaria de la lengua."

La Vanguardia

// The writer from the Canary Islands was one of the great values of the Spanish crime novel. Each book, from *La estrategia del pequinés*, with which he won the Dashiell Hammett prize at the Semana Negra de Gijón in 2014, to his latest, *Los nombres prestados*, winner of the Café de Gijón 2022 prize, was a new literary challenge, a different way of breaking the margins of a genre that often settles for too little and often copies itself to the point of boredom. With Alexis Ravelo that never happened, it wasn't his playground, it wasn't his way of understanding books, nor was it his way of understanding life."

Juan Carlos Galindo, El País

// In his books you could read the streets of our archipelago. He imagined and entered the home of each of his characters, something that conditions the life of each person."

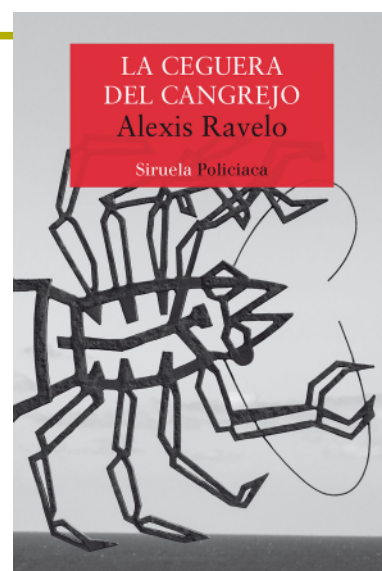
Canarias Ahora, El Diario.es

Blindness of the Crab

La ceguera del cangrejo

First Publisher:
Siruela (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **May 2019, 332 pages**
5th edition



Alexis Ravelo

Forbidden Miracles

Los milagros prohibidos

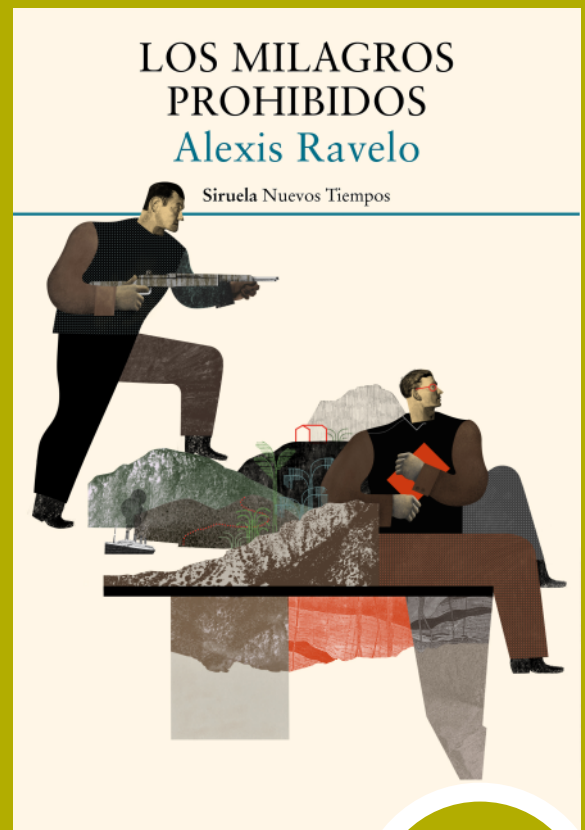
First Publisher:

Siruela (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **March 2017, 332 pages**
10th Edition

Through the misadventures of a teacher in the Canary Islands, Alexis Ravelo reveals one of the lesser known stories of the Spanish Civil War.

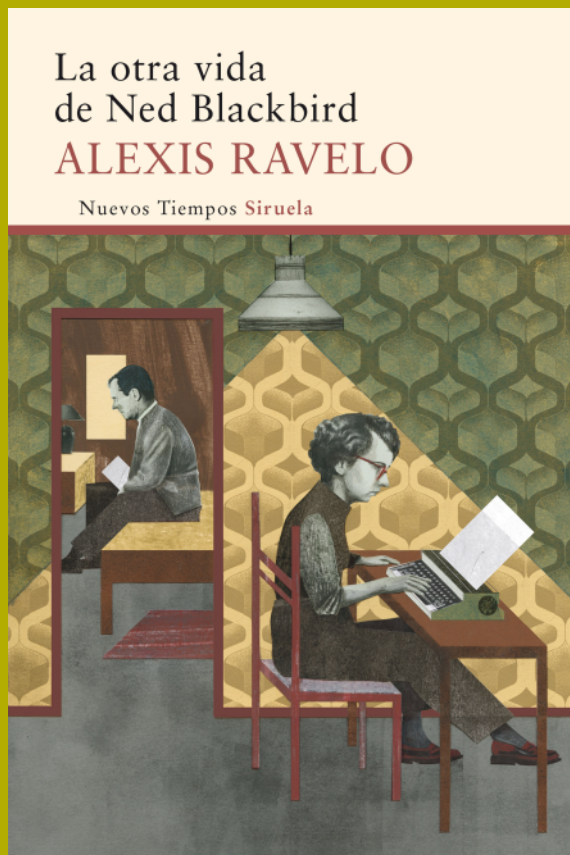
Agustín Santos, a leftist teacher, wanders through the mountains of La Palma with a revolver which he does not wish to use. He overlooks the fact that among his persecutors is the man known as Floro the Ferret. Rejected by Emilia, Agustín's wife, the Ferret has the perfect opportunity to get rid of his rival in love. Meanwhile, in the island's capital, Emilia painfully awaits her husband's arrival to save her. But this can only happen thanks to a miracle. And during the winter of 1936, the fascists have outlawed miracles.



*10th
edition*

The story of a persecution, a love triangle and an unfair duel between two men. At the same time, this book is a profound reflection on justice and pays homage to the protagonists of a relatively unknown episode of the Civil War, the Red Week of La Palma and the following insubordination of those involved

Alexis Ravelo



Ned Blackbird's Other Life

La otra vida de Ned Blackbird

First Publisher:

Siruela (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **February 2016, 184 pages**

2nd Edition

“Ravelo has written the novel that many of us have dreamed about writing someday. On top of this, he has done it better than we could have imagined”

Sebastià Benassar

Flowers Don't Bleed

Las flores no sangran

First Publisher:

Editorial Alrevés (Spain & Latin America)

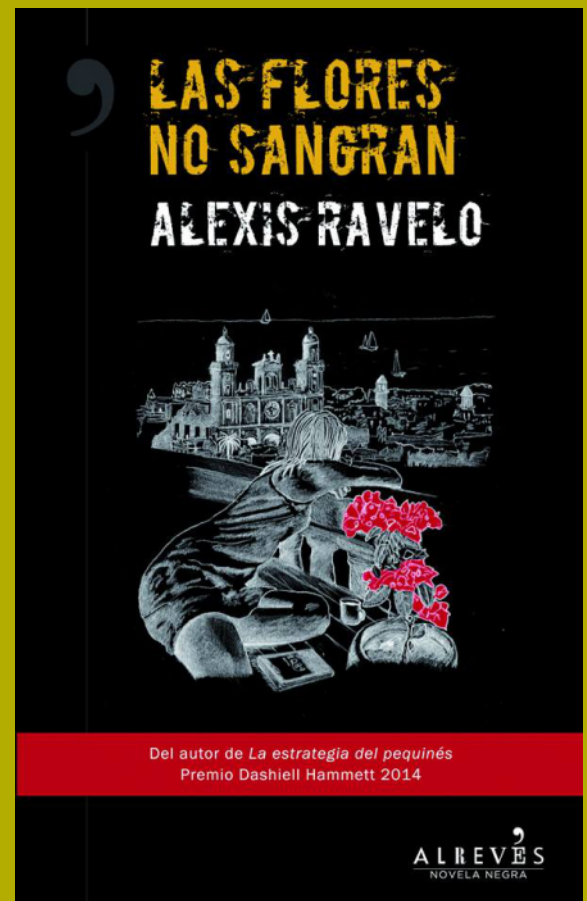
Details: **January 2015, 329 pages**

Rights sold to:

France (Mirobole Éditions)

“A crime novel that also depicts many of the ills of contemporary society. And it becomes an allegory of what we can become”

*Victoriano S. Álamo
Pleamar Cultural*



Alexis Ravelo

"Alexis is already a master in this genre. This novel confirms it"

*Paco Gómez Escribano
Culturamas*

The Last Tomb

La última tumba

First Publisher:

Edaf (Spain & Latin America)

Details: 2013, 256 pages

Movie rights sold

*Premio
Getafe de
Novela Negra
2013*

"In this extremely dark crime novel, nobody is innocent, and nothing is what it seems. You won't be able to leave it until the end"

*Juan Laborda Barceló
Culturamas*



The Pequinese Strategy

La estrategia del Pequinés

First Publisher:

Alrevés (Spain & Latin America)

Details: 2013, 313 pages

Rights sold to:

France (Mirobole Éditions)

Greece (Carnivora)

Movie rights sold

"When a novel prevents you from getting on with your life because you're aching for a few stolen moments to go on reading it, it's a damn masterpiece of a novel."

Paco Gómez Escribano

"A great literary work. A noir novel to shed a tear to and get sentimental with on a rainy afternoon."

Sebastià Serrano



*Premio
Hammett
2013*

Berta Dávila



English sample available

A novel about the meaning of the bonds that sustain us and the ambiguities of maternal love

Berta Dávila (Santiago de Compostela, 1987) is one of the most acclaimed Galician authors in recent years, by readers and critics alike. *Los seres queridos* is her most recent book, which has been awarded the Xerais Novel Prize and is published simultaneously in Galician and Spanish.

The discovery of a dazzling literary voice capable of telling us about the things we find it difficult to name

Loved Ones *Los seres queridos*

First Publisher: **Xerais (Galician)**, March 2022

Rights sold to:

World Spanish (Destino)

April 2022, 141 pages

World English (3Times Rebel)

Catalan (Les Hores)

TV/Film rights optioned

Five years after becoming a mother, a woman suddenly finds herself in the dilemma of deciding whether or not she wants to become one again. The ambiguous memory of the first year of bringing up her son brings back a reflection of the experience marked by guilt and regret.

From the story of the last weeks of the year, where family encounters are interspersed with unexpected events, the novel tells us about the edges of maternal love, family and friendship, grief and its nooks and crannies.

With penetrating and evocative writing, *Los seres queridos* attempts to delve into the meaning of the bonds that sustain us and how literature is capable of capturing what we find difficult to name.

Carolina Montoto

Carolina Montoto LENA AL DESCOBERT



English sample available

Carolina Montoto (Barcelona, 1968) has a degree in Art History and has been working as a proofreader for more than twenty years. This is her first novel for adults.

Finding Lena Lena al descobert

First Publisher: **Editorial Les Hores (Catalan)**

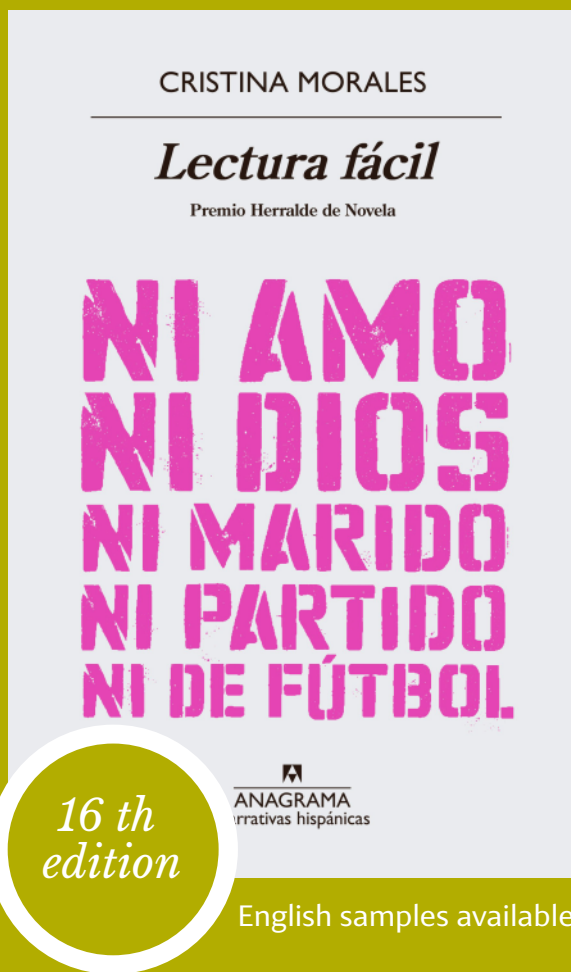
Details: **September 2021, 312 pages**

Lena reviews her life on the day she turns fifty: she works as a proofreader and with what she earns she struggles to make ends meet, she lives in a flat on the ground floor, she has no partner, almost no friends, her father has just died, she doesn't know where she is going and has no plans for the future. It seems that she is becoming more and more invisible in the eyes of society: the balance sheet is bleak.

But, after a chance encounter with the grey and enigmatic owner of her flat, a retired gentleman, she dares to rebel: she will give up her life, hitherto alienated and monotonous, and take a path that will bring her closer to a past full of silences in a society that has many things to hide.

A novel about the abuse of power and the privileges that originated during the Franco regime but are still present today. A reflection between today's Barcelona and post-war Menorca, and about the effect that the past and the half-truths have on the conception of oneself and on the attitude we adopt towards life.

Cristina Morales



«The brilliant discovery of four hilarious voices that enjoy the impunity essential to every true literature»

Juan Pablo Villalobos

2019
National Book
Award For Fiction

2018 Winner
Herralde Prize
for Fiction

Easy Reading Lectura Fácil

First Publisher:

Editorial Anagrama (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **December 2018, 424 pages**

16th Edition

Rights sold to:

World English (Vintage)

Germany (Matthes und Seitz)

Poland (Art Rage)

Italy (Guanda)

France (Denoël)

Greece (Opera)

Portugal (Sibila)

Brazil (Mundareu)

TV rights sold

Theatre adaptation for Spain sold

There are four of them: Marga, Nati, Patricia and Àngels. They are cousins, have different degrees of intellectual disability and share a supervised flat. They have spent a good part of their lives in RUDIS and CRUDIS (urban and rural centers for the intellectually disabled). But above all, they are free women, who live without complexes their daily lives, their bodies and their sexuality. And they do not remain silent or are easily scared. They live in a racially mixed and oppressive Barcelona: the city of unemployment, evictions, lies, squatters, the Plataforma de Afectados por la Hipoteca (Platform for People Affected by Mortgages) and the libertarian cultural associations.

This book is a battleground: against the prevailing machismo, against the oppression of the system, against injustice. But it is also a novel that celebrates body and sexuality, the desire between women, the dignity of one who is marked by the stigma of intellectual incapacity and the transgressive and revolutionary power of language. It is above all a portrait – visceral, vibrant, combative and all-female – of contemporary society with the city of Barcelona as setting.

Cristina Morales (Granada, 1985) has a degree in Political Science and specializes in International Relations. In 2007-2008 she was a resident at the Antonio Gala Foundation for Young Creators. Her books have won INJUVE Narrative Prize 2012 and have been Finalist of the Festival du Premier Roman de Chambéry in 2013. In 2015 she was awarded the Scholarship for Literary Creation from the Han Nefkens Foundation and in 2018 was the Winner of the Herralde Prize for Fiction.

Cristina Morales

*«An excellent novel»
Carlos Pardo, El País*

*«Extraordinary for many reasons»
J. A. Masoliver Ródenas
La Vanguardia*

I am Santa Teresa Introducción a Teresa de Jesús

First Publisher: **Lumen**

New edition by:

Anagrama (Spain & Latin America)

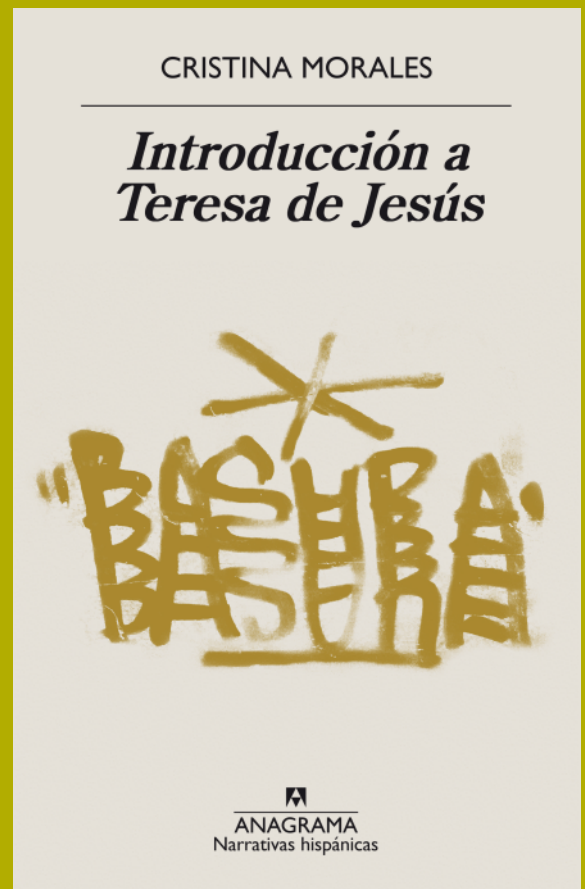
Details: **March 2019, 205 pages**

Rights sold to:

Italy (Guanda)

The voice of Teresa of Ávila reimagined from freedom and radicalism: a bold novel about a woman who broke the mould.

It's 1562 and Teresa of Ávila, at the age of forty-seven, is housed in the palace of Luisa de la Cerda in Toledo. She consoles her hostess from the melancholy caused by her husband's death, waits for the foundation of her new convent to prosper and dedicates herself to write a text destined to become a decisive work in the birth of the modern autobiographical genre: *The Book of My Life*, which will have to please her ecclesiastical superiors and defend her from her detractors. But... what if Teresa - a Carmelite nun, writer and woman - had written another manuscript in parallel, a more intimate diary, not intended to please or defend her before anyone, but to evoke her past life and try to explain herself as a human being? That is what Cristina Morales imagines, giving voice to a different Teresa, free from ties and commitments.

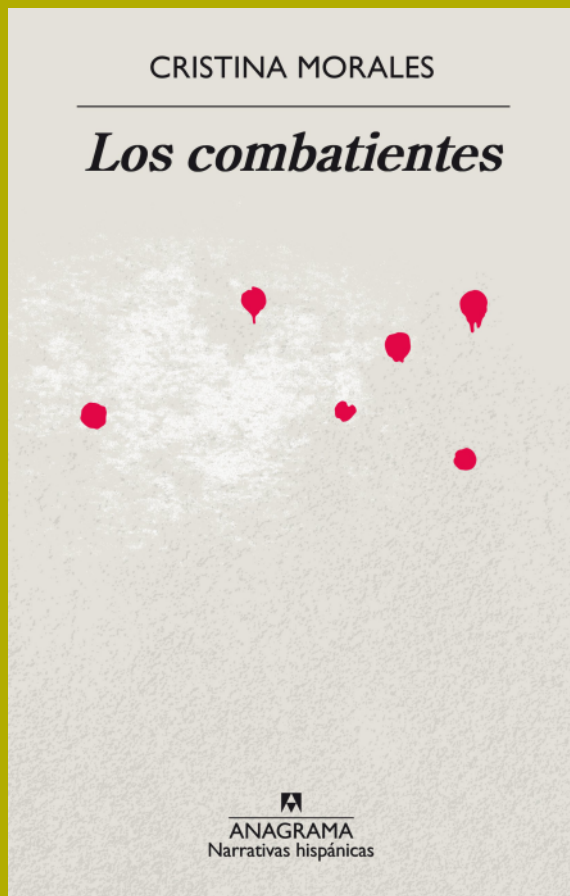


English sample available

«Morales imagines and gives a new life to a woman who questions everything, never satisfied by anything, and who finds her salvation in writing... Morales reveals herself as a writer as brave and free as the author, whom she brings back to life in her most feminine version»

Peio H. Riaño, El Confidencial

Cristina Morales



The Fighters Los combatientes

First Publisher: **Caballo de Troya (PRH)**

New edition by:

Anagrama (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **March 2020, 120 pages**

Rights sold to: **Slovenia (Beletrina)**

Who are the fighters: those who jump rope (like the boxers in their training), the actors of a university theatre company that bears that name, the young people who survive as best as they can in 21st century Spain, working, reading and fucking in precarious conditions.

This is a book - perhaps a novel - that tells through fiction a true story, that speaks of representation and reality, of imposed radicalism and authentic transgression, of art as provocation and of provocation as art.

A necessary text... It speaks of youth, violence, unemployment, post-feminism or political correctness

Marta Sanz

Modern Terrorists Terroristas modernos

First Publisher:

Editorial Candaya (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **March 2017, 400 pages**

2nd Edition

Cristina Morales confirms her place as the greatest and most powerful novelist of her generation.

Carlos Pardo, Babelia, El País

She's a force of nature. Morales' writing is powerful and placed in the antipodes of political correctness.

Marta Sanz, ABC Cultural





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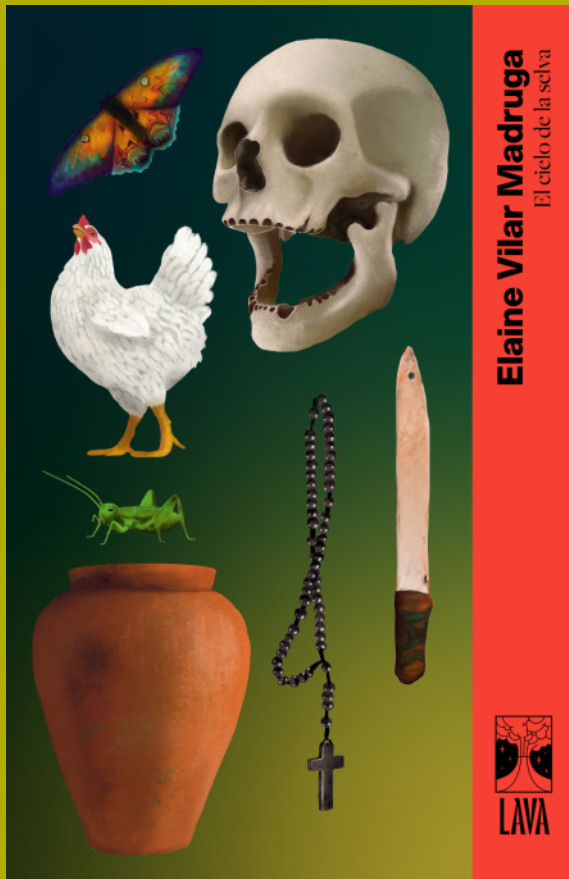


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The
Ella Sher
Literary Agency

Elaine Vilar Madruga



Elaine Vilar Madruga (Havana, 1989) is already one of the latest and most powerful voices to be reckoned with in the new boom of Latin American literature. Throughout more than thirty works, this prolific author has developed her very particular universe as novelist, poet and playwright in books published in Cuba, United States, Canada, Spain, Chile, France, Dominican Republic, Italy and Mexico.

Professor of creative writing and journalist, her books have been awarded with numerous international recognitions for her personal mixing of the realistic and the fantastic, delving into the limits of genres to cross them and feverishly find the points of union between horror and lyric in a constant reflection on the systems of power, the limits of the body and sexuality or the new ways of understanding and defending feminism.

The Sky over the Rain Forest El cielo de la Selva

First Publisher:

Lava Editorial (Spain & Latin America)

Rights sold to:

Brazil (Editora Instante)

Details: **April 2023, 348 pages**

The jungle is a hungry god. One that allows safe living in its domain but demands the highest of prices in return. Its voracity never ends and those who live under its control must surrender their children to it as part of a cyclical cannibal tribute.

In this Caribbean horror story, mothers are forced to raise their own children as future food, in a sacrifice made of blood and madness. If one wishes to survive here, no woman can decide not to be a mother. And no mother can not become a mere producer of human flesh to keep the system of offerings and retribution going.

In a ruthless world of guerrilleros and narcos, the jungle guarantees the safety of its inhabitants, who give up any kind of rights and hope in this terrible fable about motherhood and women's bodies.

Elaine Vilar Madruga

Elaine has written a book that does with language what it wants, that does not ask permission to express itself as it does, a book, therefore, without any shame

Cristina Morales

The Tyranny of Flies

La tiranía de las moscas

First Publisher:

Editorial Barrett (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **April 2021, 304 pages**

Rights sold to:

Italy (Mendel Edizioni)

Russia (Polyandria)

Brazil (Editora Instante)

World English (HarperVia)

Cassandra, Caleb and Calia are three siblings, one more unusual than the other. Cassandra, the eldest, feels a sexual attraction to objects; Caleb, the middle one, causes death to any animal that comes near him; finally, Calia, the youngest, is always silent and has a special talent for hyper-realistic animal drawing. The father, a stuttering soldier, loses the favor of the Abuelo Bigotes, the Country Leader, and, out of frustration, begins to make life impossible for his children, especially Cassandra, who has fallen in love with a bridge, and who is prevented by her father from visiting it to express her most intimate desires. Thus, the three siblings must join forces to put an end to the dictatorship imposed by their father, in the presence of a passive mother obsessed with psychoanalysis and who hates her children.



English sample available

*«One of the most skillful and creative authors in science fiction and fantasy literature today»
Libros prohibidos*

Enrique Díaz Álvarez



English sample available

2021 Winner
Anagrama Essay
Prize

Enrique Díaz Álvarez traces the past and present of calamities in Europe and Mexico to warn us that the literary and intellectual fascination we feel for the winners can become, in itself, another calamity.

*In *La palabra que aparece*, he draws, with a sense of responsibility and precise prose, a triangle composed of the vertices of words, testimony and vulnerability to suggest to us why the story that deserves to be told is the story of the defeated, the life of the fragile. An essay with the air of a classic to deal with the clouds of the present.*

Pau Luque

This exquisitely documented and sensitive book selects and illustrates how thinkers, poets and writers wrote about war and violence they lived through. It also shows that there were wars that "lacked narrators" when dead bodies littered the streets, now that there are so many narrators that it is difficult to see the wars.

Remedios Zafra

Words that Appear Testimony as an Act of Survival

**La palabra que aparece.
El testimonio como acto
de supervivencia**

First Publisher:

Anagrama (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **October 2021, 320 pages**

This is a book about violence and words. Not the words that are used to legitimise it from the winners' discourse, but the words that burst forth to confront it. Because violence is exercised with language, but it is also fought with it.

This essay deepens the vocation to narrate the disasters of war in order to make room for the omitted perspective. It dwells on bloody episodes in history: from the Trojan War, the conquest of Mexico, the Spanish Civil War and the Second World War - with Hiroshima and the Holocaust - to modern conflicts fought with drones or less conventional combat, such as the drug war in Mexico.

In the wake of Hannah Arendt, the author connects stories and fragments of concrete lives - the collage of stories in the face of official history - and starts from Homeric impartiality to think about current forms of violence and repel this tribalism based on eliminating the enemy.

A lucid and necessary book that puts at the centre of the debate the need to avoid the normalisation of violence and to put a face to the victims.

Enrique Díaz Álvarez

One might expect this step from Enrique Díaz Álvarez. From being a skilled film editor, he has moved focus to the essay and here proposes a literature of resistance in the face of invading discourses. This book is suggestive, creative and highly recommended.

Enrique Vila-Matas

The Lives of Others El traslado

First Publisher:

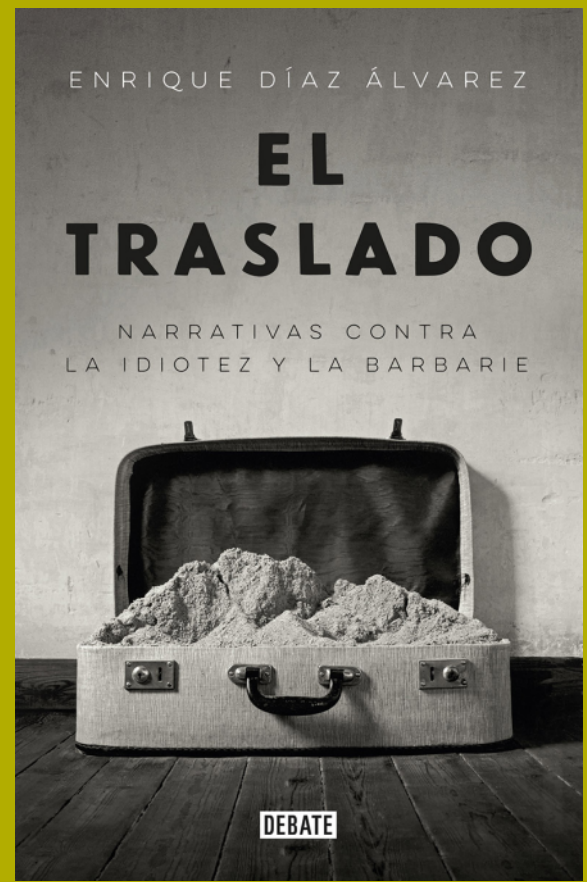
Debate (Penguin RH)
(Spain & Latin America)

Details: **September 2015, 328 pages**

Nothing is more common in contemporary societies than fear and disinterest towards difference. We seem incapable of getting rid of the prejudices that hinder us from questioning the discriminatory narratives that divide us. Undoubtedly, a large part of the decadence of public life has its roots in our lack of willingness to put ourselves in the shoes of others.

‘An act of hospitality can only be poetic’ says Jacques Derrida in the epigraph of this book, whose starting point is a fundamental premise: the imagination is an act of political resistance as it evokes the ability to meaningfully experience the lives of others. We must bear in mind this power to involve ourselves with the bodies and stories of others if we are to combat the barbarism and idiocy that isolate us from the public.

This book’s proposal is definitive: in order to reverse political disrepute, attention must be given to those narratives that make us aware of abuse of power, racism, fanaticism and the pain of others. Shared human existence requires us to develop representations that reveal the individuality and social conditions of people with other ideologies, religions and cultures.



A book that champions the imagination as an act of political resistance.

Enrique Díaz Álvarez (Mexico City, 1976) is a writer and professor at the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences of the UNAM. He teaches courses on Contemporary Political Thought and Language, Culture and Power. He is the author of *El traslado. Narrativas contra la idiotez y la barbarie* (Debate, 2015). He has held the Nelson Mandela Chair of Human Rights in the Arts at UNAM and has contributed to media such as *El País*, *Horizontal* and *Quimera*. His work revolves around the ethical and political scope of contemporary narrative practices.

Gabriela Ybarra



Full English translation available

*Prizewinning literary debut:
a singular autobiographical novel
piecing together the kidnap and
murder of her grandfather by
terrorists, reflecting on the personal
impact of private pain and public
tragedy.*

Gabriela Ybarra (Vizcaya, 1983) holds a degree in Business Administration from the Universidad Pontificia in Comillas, and a Masters in Marketing from New York University, where she lived for three years. She currently lives in Madrid, where she works analyzing social networks and making market studies. *El comensal* is her first novel.

The Dinner Guest *El comensal*

First Publisher: **Caballo de Troya (PRH)**

New edition by:

Literatura Random House
(Spain & Latin America)

Details: **January 2021, 176 pages**

Rights sold to:

World English (Harvill Secker)

Italy (Polidoro)

Finland (Lurra Editions)

Arabic (Al Arabi)

In 1977, three terrorists broke into Gabriela Ybarra's grandfather's home, and pointed a gun at him in the shower.

Considered as "one of the most fascinating debuts of this year" by Book Riot 2018 Fiction Preview, this prizewinning literary debut is a singular autobiographical novel piecing together the kidnap and murder of her grandfather by terrorists and her mother's death from cancer, reflecting on the personal impact of private pain and public tragedy.

In this autobiographical novel, Gabriela Ybarra tries to understand her relationship to death and family through the analysis of her grandfather's 1977 murder at the hands of the armed group ETA, and her mother's death from cancer in 2011.

El comensal describes a historical conflict from a personal outlook, without taking the frequent role of the victim. The author acknowledges the importance of making death visible in order to accept it. The book deals with conflicts, symbols, traumas and inherited enemies. It does not attempt to theorize on terrorism, but rather to analyze the impact of death and violence in the author's family microcosm.

Irati Elorrieta

2019
*Euskadi Prize
for Literature*

Winter Lights Neguko argiak Luces de invierno

First Publisher: **Pamiela (Basque)**

Details: **October 2021, 220 pages**

Rights sold to:

**Galaxia Gutenberg
(Spain and Latin America)**

"What was I going to tell him?," thinks Añes in her kitchen in Berlin, where she is preparing dinner with Xuan, "that last time she had sex with a dead man? Marta joins them, improvising a karaoke and singing Le Temps de cerises, a Paris Commune anthem-song.

The novel scrutinizes many scenes and voices in the manner of a film. Añes and Marta cross paths with various characters who come and go, just as the lights go on and off in the windows. Linking stories about failure, resistance, escapes or the need to start from scratch, scenes from different times and places are projected into the inner world of a collective voice.



Irati Elorrieta
Luces de invierno



English sample available

Irati Elorrieta (Algorta, Biscay, 1979) is a writer in the Basque language and lives in Berlin. She published her short story novel *Bubbles* (Alberdania) in 2011, two years after the original *Burbuilak* (Alberdania). She has translated works by Rotraut Susanne Berner and Daniel Glattauer from German into Basque. She has collaborated as a columnist in media such as Berria and Argia, among others. The novel *Neguko argiak* (Pamiela) was the winner of the Euskadi Prize for Literature in 2019.

Ismael Ramos



Ismael Ramos (Mazaricos, 1994) is the author of the poetry collections *Os fillos da fame* (2016; XVII Johán Carballeira Prize), *Lumes* (2017; Javier Morote Prize) and *Lixeiro* (2021; National Youth Poetry Prize). His poems have been translated into Spanish, Catalan, Finnish, French, Hungarian, English and Portuguese, and have been included in numerous magazines and anthologies. *The easy part / A parte fácil* (2023) is his first book of short stories.

The Easy Part A parte fácil

First Publisher: **Xerais (Galician)**

Details: **February 2023, 137 pages**

Rights sold to:

Spanish (Las afueras, October 2023. 181 pages)

Catalan (Angle)

The characters in *La parte fácil*, the first book of fiction by Ismael Ramos, are young people who find it hard to deal with a reality they do not understand and which often overwhelms them. Young people who face economic and emotional precariousness, while trying to deal with feelings such as shame, guilt, anger, which are provoked by a life marked by family secrets and a lack of expectations.

With a highly personal stories, though which it's possible to glimpse a fascination for the contemporary American short story, the narrative of Annie Ernaux and the poetic word, Ismael Ramos takes us into these stories to force our gaze, provoking an estrangement with respect to reality that reappears, thanks to language, as something completely new.

Jon Bilbao

Jon Bilbao once again demonstrates his mastery as a storyteller and his command of the short story genre

Spider Araña

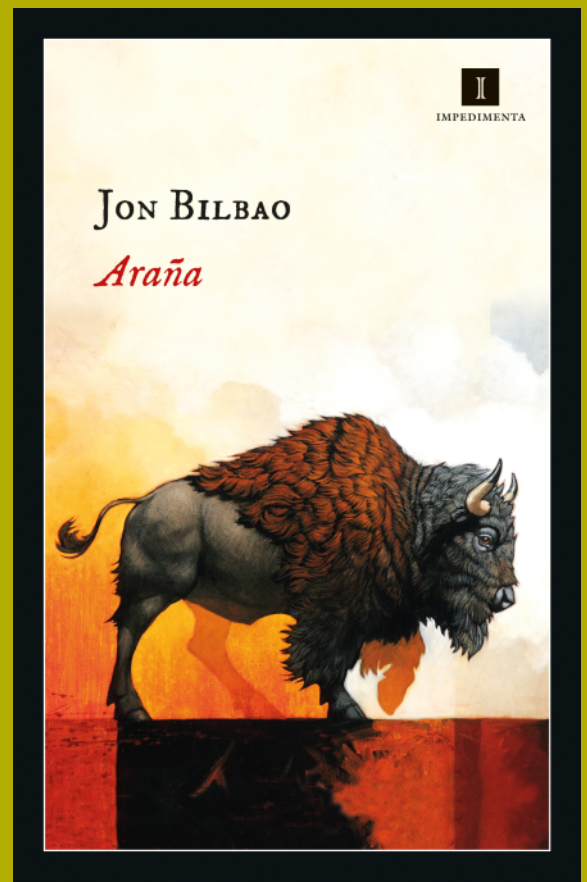
First Publisher:

Editorial Impedimenta
(Spain & Latin America)

Details: **February 2023, 416 pages**
2nd edition!

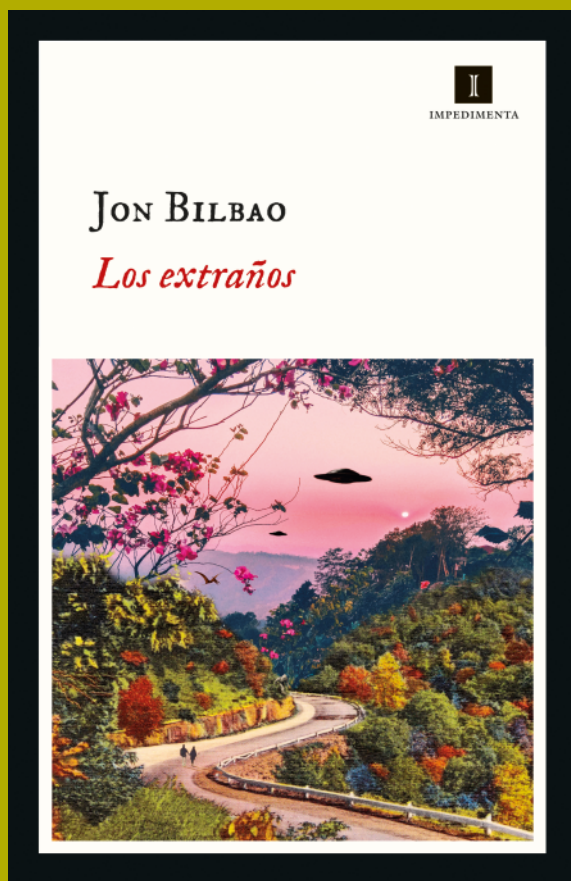
The sullen gunslinger John Dunbar, known as Basilisk, is hired as a guide by a group of pilgrims travelling across America in search of the Men's Paradise, a promised land reserved only to men. During the journey, Dunbar begins a relationship with Lucrecia, sister of the enlightened leader of the pilgrims, the only female member of the expedition, who seems destined to be the woman of his life.

Jon recalls his childhood in Asturias and sets off with his children on a bumpy documentation trip through the Nevada desert. At the same time, Katharina, his ex-partner, visits Paris during a biblical mud storm and meets someone she never expected to see again.



This powerful sequel to Basilisk traps the protagonist, the writer and the reader in its nets, merges them into one and confronts them with uncertain and inescapable demons

Jon Bilbao



English and German sample available

First Publisher:

Editorial Impedimenta
(Spain & Latin America)

Details: **September 2021, 133 pages**
4th edition!

Rights sold to:

World English (Dalkey Archive)
TV/Film Rights optioned

Jon Bilbao (Ribadesella, 1972) is a mine engineer and he has a degree in English Philology. He is considered one of the best authors of contemporary Spanish fiction. He writes novels as well as short stories and has won several awards, like the Ojo Crítico de Narrativa Award in 2008, the Tigre Juan Award in 2010 and the Euskadi Prize for Fiction.

He is currently living in Bilbao where he works as a translator.

«Jon Bilbao perfects, with each new book, his peculiar and, at times, very Anglo-Saxon gift for what Roberto Bolaño called the fencing exercise»

Laura Fernández
El País, Babelia

The Strangers

Los extraños

An old house in a village on the Cantabrian coast. Jon and Katharina have been living there for some time, trying to overcome their crisis as a couple. From one of their windows they can see the beach, where a growing number of people are camping, as a few days before some lights were seen in the sky over the mountains. On the other hand, the couple's precarious routine is disturbed by the unexpected arrival of Jon's distant cousin, Markel, who moved with his family to Chile when he was a child and is now travelling in Europe. He arrives with Virginia, a sort of assistant. The situation soon becomes awkward: the cousins have no recollection of ever having met, and Jon doubts that Markel is who he says he is; Virginia's presence becomes increasingly ambiguous and unsettling and, moreover, the couple not only doesn't seem to want to leave but gradually starts to take over the house. Despite everything, Jon and Katharina are fascinated and at the same time repulsed by them. They seem to see in them a remedy for their boredom and perhaps also for their problems.

Los extraños is the new narrative challenge from the author of Basilisco. A nouvelle endowed with a masterful rhythm that traverses the slippery frontier that separates love from routine, and which is a new twist on the theme of the other and how to live with the unknown.

Jon Bilbao

In this book Jon Bilbao reveals himself as a true word-craftsman and raises issues that break our expectations as he walks the path between different genres, full of classic references intertwined with popular culture. An exercise in fiction that appeals to our most challenging readers while putting our reality in check

Basilisk Basilisco

Unsatisfied with his work as an engineer, the protagonist moves to California. During his stay there, he will meet two people who will change his life. The first one is Katharina, a German girl who will eventually become his wife. The second person has been dead for a century: it is John Dunbar, the ancestor of the owner of the ranch where he is staying. Dunbar, a trapper, silver-digger, Civil War veteran and occasional gunman, embodies the very essence of the Far West. Sullen, violent and feared, he has earned the nickname "Basilisco". We will follow him during the gold rush in Virginia City, as a guide on a paleontological expedition in the Mormon territory, and he will be pursued by a gang of killers until he finally settles in an isolated cabin in Idaho. His only goals seem to be serenity and solitude, although many are determined to prevent him from achieving them.

Basilisco is arranged in a kind of self-contained chapters, alternating those that occur in the present and those that take place a century ago, in Nevada, Idaho and Montana.



Italian sample available

First Publisher:
Editorial Impedimenta
(Spain & Latin America)

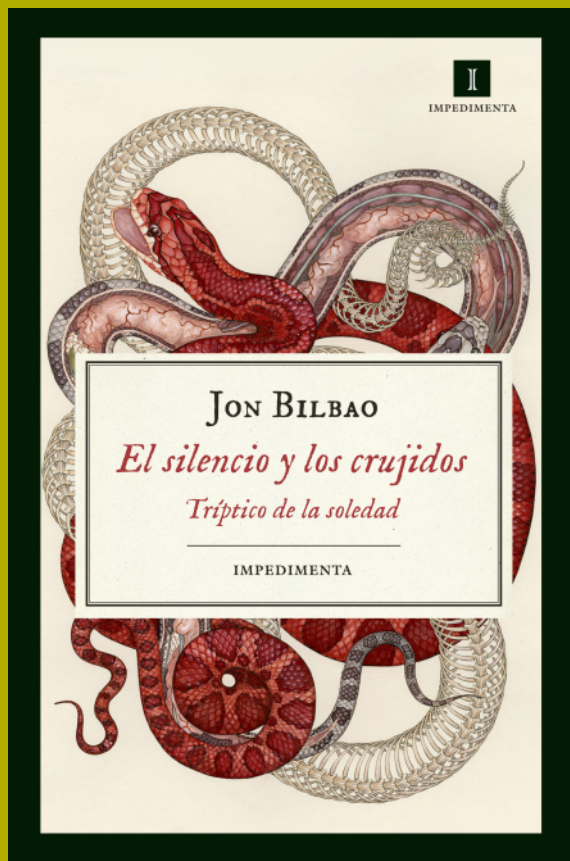
Details: **June 2020, 320 pages**
4th edition

Rights sold to:
World English (Dalkey Archive Press)

*"Jon Bilbao has an ability
out of the ordinary"*
El País, Babelia

"Showing a disturbing and powerful prose, Jon Bilbao, returns to the bookstores with his best work so far, a superb book of stories under whose surface run the motifs, plots and characters of a revisionist western."

Jon Bilbao



Intense and brutal, extreme and charming, Jon Bilbao's prose manages to put his characters on the edge of their abysses through some tragic decisions.

"Jon Bilbao confirms an extraordinary talent"
El País, Babelia

"Absolutely excellent"
El Confidencial

Silence and Creaks

Solitude triptych

El silencio y los crujidos
Tríptico de la soledad

First Publisher:

Editorial Impedimenta
(Spain & Latin America)

Details: **February 2018, 240 pages**

A medieval hermit, misanthrope and fussy, decides to spend his existence on a column from which he sees another older hermit, probably wiser and with more followers, triggering in his heart unsuspected passions.

A solitude-lover biologist, facing with what promises to be the discovery of his life, sees himself confined in a self-imposed isolation on a table-top mountain, in the middle of the Amazon rainforest, with the sole company of an anaconda that will become his angel and his devil at the same time.

A mysterious inventor from the Basque Country, after becoming a multimillionaire with a computer app that subverted human sexuality, chooses to isolate himself in a tower in the center of a Balearic island. His decision will unleash a wave of violence that will change the lives of the people he loves forever.

Jon Bilbao

Jon Bilbao, one of the most interesting and award-winning contemporary Spanish storytellers, once again demonstrates in Stromboli his extraordinary capacity to reveal the often disturbing or unsettling elements that are hidden beneath the most mundane of stories.

Stromboli Estrómboli

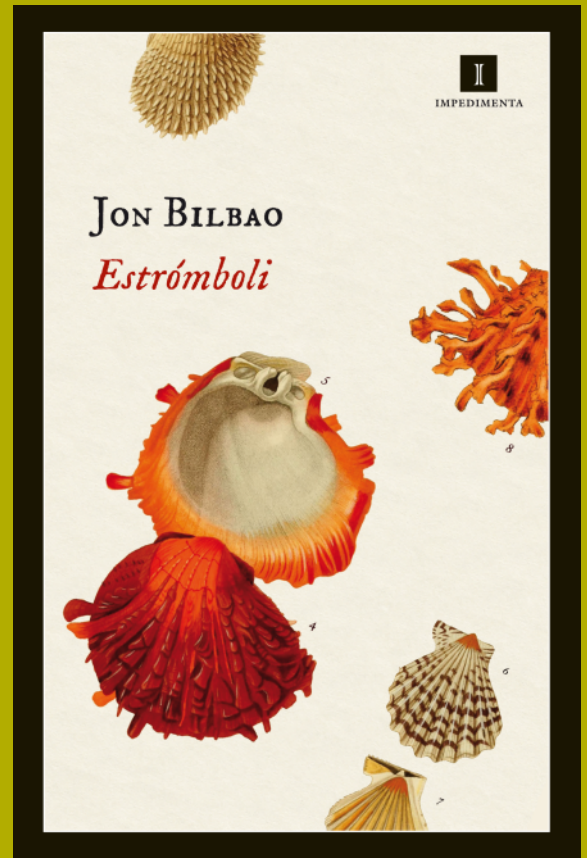
First Publisher:

Editorial Impedimenta
(Spain & Latin America)

Details: **February 2016, 272 pages**
Stories, 3rd edition!

Rights sold to: **Giulio Perrone Editore (Italy)**

A gang of bikers harass a couple travelling around the United States, a man is forced to eat a live tarantula on television to solve his family's financial problems, two amateur gold seekers suffer a terrible accident in the mountains that tests their friendship, the death of two homeless people and the discovery of some mysterious ruins disturb wedding celebrations, a married man and his lover travel to the island Stromboli to help someone important to them both...The eight stories that make up this volume raise questions such as where are the limits of family obligation? How far will we go to achieve what we want? To what extent do the sacrifices made change these goals? Could what appears to be the end of a relationship between two people actually be the beginning of another more powerful but completely different relationship?



Jon Bilbao exhibits a rare mastery
El País, Babelia

Jon Bilbao is one of the new wave of writers who I consider the most gifted. He commands a world that he has managed to make his own, where attention to detail is the priority
ABC

Jon Bilbao has established himself as one of the few Spanish storytellers who combine quality and commercial appeal.
Qué Leer

Jon Bilbao



Full English and French
translations available

A tense and intense novel that culminates in outlandish violence. A terrific, anxious, and disturbing read.

Starred Review on Kirkus

Still the Same Man Padres, hijos y primates

First Publisher:

Salto de Pagina

(Spain & Latin America)

Details: **February 2011, 176 pages**

Rights sold to:

Greece (Carnivora)

TV/Movie rights optioned

Life has not been as Joanes expected. When he was studying Engineering everybody was wishing him a brilliant future, but this has not come true. His company is about to go bankrupt. Things could change thanks to an important agreement. Under these circumstances, with the deal about to be closed, the last thing Joanes wants is to travel to Mexico to attend to his father in law's new wedding. Once in Rivera Maya, a hurricane alert forces them to leave the hotel and to go in the interior of the country to be safe. During the journey he comes across one of his former professors from university, who is also fleeing from the hurricane. The professor, a renowned mathematician is a dangerous, manipulative character who invites mistrust with everything he says and does. Joanes is convinced that he is the responsible for the failure of his career. And now, held in a guest house because of the hurricane, he will have the opportunity to settle accounts with him. He will be able to verify if his suspicions are true or just a sophisticated fantasy, even though for this he will need more than words.

Jon Bilbao

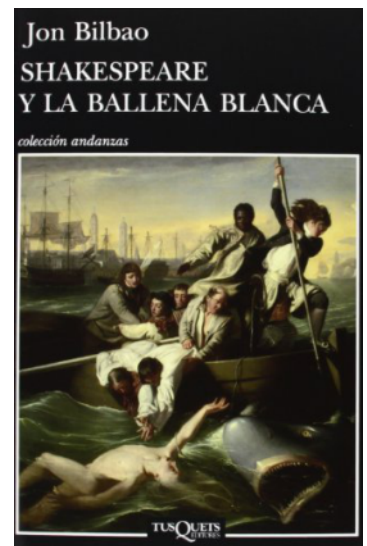
Shakespeare and the White Whale Shakespeare y la ballena blanca

First Publisher:

Tusquets Editores (Spain & Latin America)

Details: May 2013, 232 pages

Did Shakespeare imagine Moby Dick two hundred and fifty years before Melville? This is the juicy and stimulating premise on which Jon Bilbao's new novel is based. In this extremely fortunate literary pastiche, full of winks, surprises and adventures, the author of Romeo and Juliet embarks on a galleon as part of an Elizabethan embassy to the Danish Court, in 1601. During the journey, the ship – which is not called Pequod but Nimrod – bumps into a hostile whale, whose back is spread with harpoons and scars. The vision of the monster causes in Shakespeare the sudden idea of writing a play. Little by little, while the whale stalks the ship and the crew tries to organize its hunt, the playwright gives shape to the plot which includes a maniac and crippled captain – resembling Richard the Third – and a ...white whale.



Family Resemblance Física familiar

First Publisher:

Editorial Salto de Página (Spain & Latin America)

Details: June 2014, 168 pages

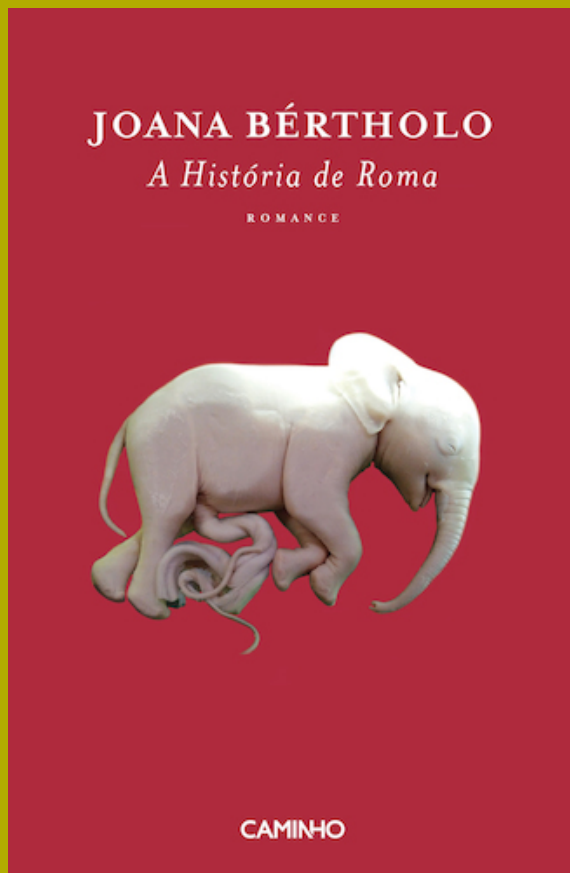
“A magnificent book that you’ll read in one sitting”

“This book provides an excellent opportunity to get to know one of the most notable authors in contemporary Spanish literary”

A recent widow is starting to be concerned about the structures his child makes out of Lego; coming face to face with death with a strange black dog leads a man to rethink his marital problems; two utterly different sisters compete with one another in the gruelling and demoralizing environment of a scrap ship yard in the Russian city of Murmansk; while on holiday in the Mediterranean, a man discovers the unexpected pleasures of sculpting wax teeth for his wife.... Beneath their seemingly disconnected surfaces, the stories in this collection take diverse narrative approaches to all explore one theme: the concept of family. Bilbao exposes the affection, the mysteries, and the horrors that come with family life; and gets to the heart of the family institution, exploring its limits—from the world's first family to those who have rejected any kind of personal bonds.

“Bilbao’s language is incisive, razor-sharp and devoid of florid adornment; often the most important thing is not what is said, but what is left unsaid; what is suggested. And it’s precisely their capacity to suggest things to us that makes these small stories feel big, in all senses of the word...”

Joana Bértholo



English and Spanish
samples available

Joana Bértholo (Lisbon, 1982) combined her training in Communication Design, and then in Cultural Studies, with a series of trips - to European and South American cities, where she lived for a few months to a few years. He lives in Portugal, where he writes for book and stage, fiction and non-fiction.

History of Rome Historia de Roma

First published by:
Caminho (Portugal)

Details: **September 2022. 312 pages**

Two people, who were once a couple, meet after ten years of separation. She, a Lisboner, leads him, the foreigner, through different routes in her city, while they unravel memories. In the attempt to establish a common past, rare are the paths that coincide. They are left with the names of certain streets, certain cities - Buenos Aires, Berlin, Marseille, Beirut - which become intimate topographies, which can no longer be visited, like the name of the daughter they never had.

Eça de Queiroz Foundation & Millennium bcp Foundation Literary Prize

"The jury of the Eça de Queiroz Foundation/Millennium bcp Foundation Literary Prize has unanimously decided to award the prize to *A História de Roma*, by Joana Bértholo. It is the story of a modern love, and at the same time a modern story of love. The work recovers the idea of the narrative as a journey, and in it the development of a process of self-knowledge. The novel explores the border between fiction and non-fiction, never deviating from literature.

Geographical and amorous wandering is based on the author's literary and stylistic maturity, which makes *A História de Roma* an original work, rescuing from banality one of literature's most recurrent themes."

Jordi Llobregat

No Shadows Beneath Donde no llegan las sombras

First Publisher: **Destino (Spain & Latin America)**

Details: **November 2, 2023. 480 pages**

After leaving school, Martina disappears without a trace. After a few days, her body is found floating in a pool in the middle of the forest, three hundred kilometres from the place where she was last seen. Forensic experts are unable to determine the cause of death. It seems to be an isolated incident until, weeks later, another girl disappears and is found dead shortly afterwards in the same conditions.

Former police officer Alex Serra is still haunted by the disappearance of her sister twenty years earlier. The cases have eerie similarities that only she understands, but after all this time, is it possible that the same person is responsible?

When a third girl goes missing, the investigation becomes a race against time to find her safe and sound. Serra, haunted by her past and a murderer who seems to know her very well, will have to confront the darkest side of the human being to discover the place where the shadows do not reach.



Jordi Llobregat (Valencia, 1971) dreamed of becoming a writer at the age of twelve after seeing the film *Le Magnifique*, starring Jean-Paul Belmondo and Jacqueline Bisset. He has written numerous short stories, published in several anthologies. He is the author of the novel *El secreto de Vesalio* (Destino, 2015), translated into nineteen languages and sold in more than forty countries, and *No hay luz bajo la nieve* (Destino, 2019).

Jordi Llobregat



First Publisher:
Destino (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **September 2019, 552 pages**

Rights sold to:
Catalan (Columna)
France (Le Cherche Midi éditeurs)

In a forgotten place, a mountain keeps an ancient secret. When the silence of the snow is not enough to hide it, the deaths will no longer stop

No Light Under the Snow

No hay luz bajo la nieve

A naked and handcuffed man, with his eyelids sewn with a wire, has been found submerged in the icy waters of a swimming pool, during the renovation works in the ski resort Vall de Beau in the Pyrenees: the most emblematic infrastructure of the Spanish-French candidacy for the next Winter Olympic Games.

Deputy homicide inspector Alex Serra and French police lieutenant Jean Cassel will be in charge of the investigation. After some time away from her job due to a serious incident in which Serra shot a colleague, her superiors send her to the mountains to investigate the case. Serra grew up in a small village in the area on the other side of the valley. No one knows that place like her. On her return, she finds herself reunited with everything she thought she had left behind forever: a merciless mountain, an oppressive environment dominated by secrets and memories of a past she has yet to overcome. Now, moreover, an intelligent and implacable assassin will put her to the test.

This will be just the first in a series of crimes that have to do with a history hidden for decades. Only those who know it will be able to solve the case and find the mysterious criminal.

Jordi Llobregat

Secrets, lies and forbidden passions are played out against the tumultuous and enthralling backdrop of nineteenth-century Barcelona, where nothing is what it seems and no one is safe from their past.

Vesalius' Secret El secreto de Vesalio

First Publisher:

Ediciones Destino (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **May 19th, 2015, 540 pages**

Full English, German, Italian, French and Portuguese translations available

Rights sold to:

World English (QUERCUS)

German (BLANVALET - Random House Germany)

French (LE CHERCHE MIDI)

Italian (LONGANESI - Gruppo Mauri Spagnol)

Brazilian (PLANETA Brasil)

Portuguese (PLANETA Portugal)

Catalan (Columna Edicions)

Dutch (MERIDIAAN UITGEVERS)

Polish (SONIA DRAGA)

Czech (HOST)

Greek (PATAKIS Publishers)

Hebrew (KINNERET ZMORA)

Simplified Chinese (SHANGHAI 99)

Complex Chinese - Taiwan (DELIGHT PRESS)

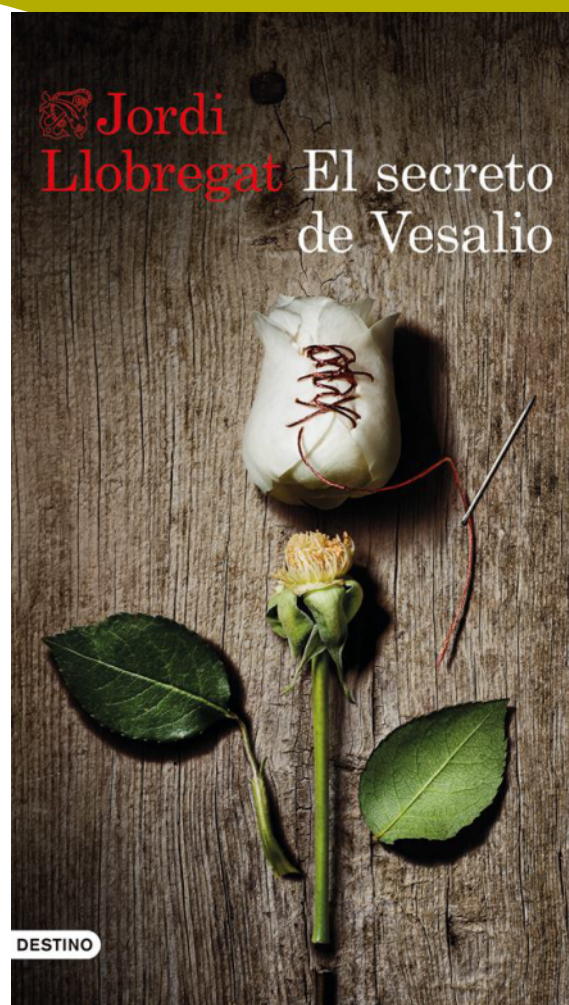
Japanese (SHUEISHA)

Turkish (BÜYÜKADA)

Korea (Nike Books)

Hungary (Agave Kiado)

Bulgarian (PROZORETZ)



Juan Gómez Bárcena



Juan Gómez Bárcena (Santander, 1984) has a degree in Literary Theory and Comparative Literature (Complutense University, Madrid), a degree in Philosophy (UNED) and a History degree (Complutense University, Madrid). In 2014 he won the Spanish Ojo Crítico Prize and the Ciudad de Alcalá Prize, having been translated into English, Italian, Portuguese, German and Greek. His work was considered one of the best debuts of 2012 by El Cultural de El Mundo, and he later received the prize for best new author.

Everything Else is Air Lo demás es aire

First Publisher:

Seix Barral (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **May 2022, 544 pages. 4th edition**

Rights sold to:

The Netherlands (Wereldbibliotheek)

Germany (Secession Verlag)

Lithuanian (Alma Littera)

Italy (Gran Vía edizioni)

1984. During a trip to the seaside, Emilio and Mercedes, a married couple with two little girls, decide to stop off in Toñanes, the small village on the Cantabrian coast where Emilio was born and grew up and which today is just a street with a dozen scattered houses, a church and a hundred or so inhabitants.

Together with the history of the family, these pages are interwoven with dozens of stories of the villagers over several centuries: family conflicts, wars, atavistic fears, technological advances and old quarrels that not even the passage of time can erase.

Lo demás es aire is a fascinating novel, the result of Juan Gómez Bárcena's passion for history, who for years studied official documents and spoke to the inhabitants of Toñanes, but also of his passion for literature and fairy tales to go where official reality does not go. This is the story of a village that acts as a mirror for the emotional history of an entire country.

Not Even the Dead Ni siquiera los muertos

First Publisher: **Sexto Piso (Spain & Latin America)**

Details: **March 2020, 408 pages**

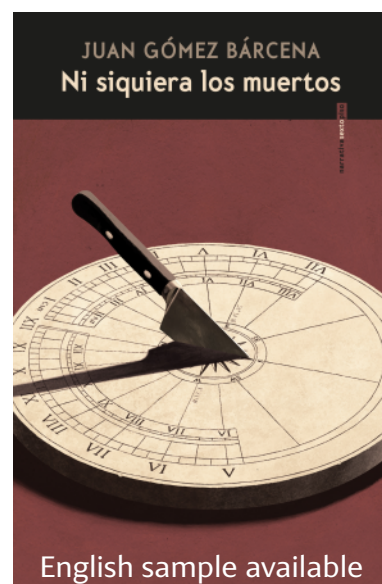
Rights sold to:

Germany (Secession Verlag)

World English (Open Letter)

Brazil (DBA Editora)

TV/Film Rights optioned



Juan Gómez Bárcena

"Beautifully written and full of humour, El cielo sobre Lima has at its heart a captivating story of ventriloquist love not unlike the classic Cyrano de Bergerac. Its young protagonists are reminiscent of Bolaño's visceral realists, emissaries of their time but identifiable and appealing to today's readers"

André Aciman

The Sky Over Lima El cielo de Lima

First Publisher:

Editorial Salto de Página (May 2014)

New Edition by:

Seix Barral (Spain &/ Latin America)

Details: **September 2023, 311 pages**

The fascinating story of how two young poets weaved one of the greatest literary hoaxes of the 20th century.

In 1904, two young Peruvians trying to get books signed by their idolised Juan Ramón Jiménez decided to write to him pretending to be a girl called Georgina Hübner. Born on paper as a literary joke, the imaginary young woman became an obsession for the writer and the two of them engaged in an epistolary romance whose tragic end Juan Ramón himself would record in one of his collections of poems.

Based on this historical anecdote, *El cielo de Lima* follows the steps of these two dilettantes in their search for the perfect muse, from the garrets of bohemian life to the brothels and the suburbs where the first workers' revolts broke out, until they reach the very heart of the poet. Originally published in 2014 and translated into seven languages, it was Juan Gómez Bárcena's surprising irruption onto the Spanish narrative scene and earned him the *Ojo Crítico de Narrativa Prize* and the *City of Alcalá Narrative Prize*.



*2015 Premio
Ojo Crítico de
Literatura*

*2014 Premio
Alcalá de Henares*

Rights sold to:

The Netherlands (Wereldbibliotheek)

Germany (Secession Verlag)

US (Houghton Mifflin)

Greece (Kastaniotis)

Brazil (Alfaguara)

Italy (Frassinelli)

UK (Oneworld)



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The
Ella Sher
Literary Agency

Juan Gómez Bárcena

An unforgettable character. A novel of hopelessness for our hopeless moment in time
Luisgé Martín

Kanada

First Publisher: **Sexto Piso (Spain & Latin America)**

Details: **March 2017, 196 pages**

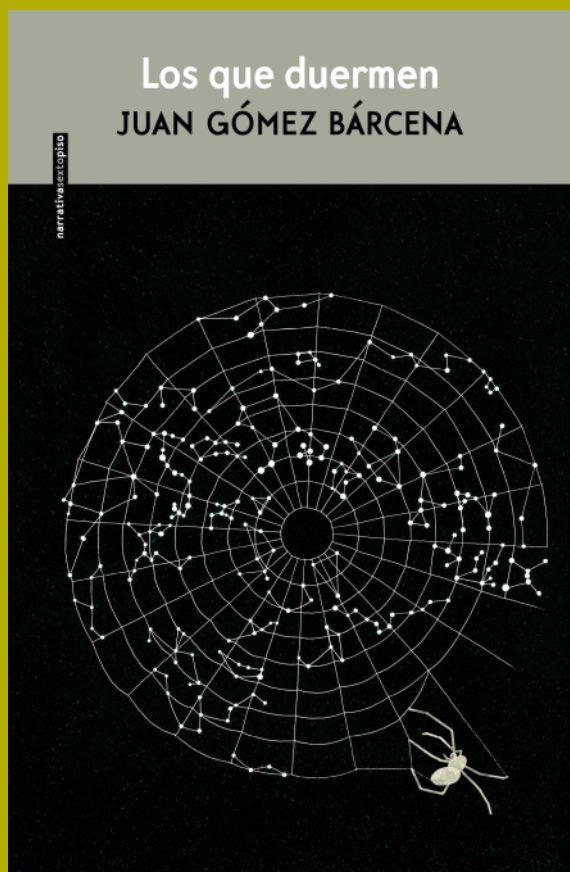
Rights sold to:

Germany (Secession Verlag)

The Netherlands (Wereldbibliotheek)

Movie rights option by Oria Films (Spain)

English sample available



Those Who Sleep

Los que duermen

First Publisher: **Editorial Salto de Página, 2012**

New Edition by: **Sexto Piso (Spain & Latin America)**

Details: **March 2019, 146 pages**

Full Italian translation available

"...más allá de los homenajes logra construir un mundo personal y en muchas ocasiones fascinante"
Care Santos, El Cultural

Julia Viejo



English and Italian samples available

Julia Viejo (Madrid, 1991). Her first job was looking after stick insects. She studied Translation and Interpreting and a Master's degree in Publishing, worked in several independent publishing houses and ended up as a bookseller in a large chain. She has collaborated in media such as Zenda or Qué Leer and gave Ana María Matute her last interview.

In The Cell There Was a Firefly

En la celda había una luciérnaga

First Publisher:

Blackie Books (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **February 2022, 184 pages**

2nd edition!

A family that must fight against a plague of weasels.
A magical forest that doesn't want anyone to visit it.
A girl locked up all night in a supermarket.
A crime at work because of a can of Coca-Cola.
A ghost condemned to be eternally young, bored drinking milkshakes and dreading visitors to his house.
A call offering to extend life insurance coverage to include suicide.
A firefly that gives warmth and illuminates the cell where two lovers meet.

The strange glows. We are all defined by how we react to strangeness. We all display even more human behaviours, of tenderness and panic, of love and disgust, when confronted with the strange. Julia Viejo, a sort of Ana María Matute of the millennial generation, knows how to detect, and also invent, the strange in the world to explain to us how we are.

A book about the different emotional fractures that all women go through at some point in their lives

It's Not Me

No soy yo

First Publisher: **Destino (World Spanish)**

Details: **January 2022, 176 pages**
3rd edition!

Rights Sold to:
Poland (Jagiellonian University Press)

KarmeLe Jaio presents us with fourteen women's stories. They all belong to the same generation, are between forty and fifty years old, and are going through a critical moment in their lives. We will follow them through the astonishment in front of a changing body, anxiety in front of evident ageing, nostalgia for the idealised past and youth, the routine of conjugal relationships, the urgency to make the most of the time they have left, the sensation of not finding their place... All those small emotional fractures of great importance in the daily life of any woman.

*One of our best contemporary novelists
and one who best reflects the daily
complexity of women's lives*

KarmeLe Jaio



*The new book by one of the most
appreciated new voices on the
Spanish literary scene*

KarmeLe Jaio (Vitoria-Gasteiz, 1970) is the author of three books of short stories – Hamabost zauri (Fifteen Wounds, Elkar, 2004), Zu bezain ahul (As Weak as You, Elkar, 2007) and Ez naiz ni (It's Not Me, Elkar, 2012) – and two novels – Amaren eskuak (Her Mother's Hands, Elkar, 2006) and Musika airean (Music in the Air, Elkar, 2010). Her short stories have been published in many anthologies, including the recent Best European Fiction 2017 anthology.

Karmele Jaio



Full English translation available
French sample available

2020
*Euskadi Prize
for Literature*

My Father's House La casa del padre

First Publisher: **Elkar (Basque)**

Details: **2019, 216 pages**

Rights Sold to:

Spanish (Destino,

January 2020, 220 pages, 4th edition)

Galician (Hugin & Mugin)

Italy (Solferino)

Brazil (Editora Instante)

World English (Dedalus)

Ismael has a secret. He's been in his studio for two years trying to write his next novel, but he can't produce anything but lifeless drafts. He questions everything he writes, which had never happened to him before, and is convinced that Jasone, his wife and first proofreader of his manuscripts, is partly to be blamed, for her mania to criticize everything, especially since she created that feminist reading club in the library where she works. The anxiety caused by this situation increases when he learns that a woman's body with signs of sexual aggression has been found in the mountains surrounding Vitoria. Since his daughter spent in Pamplona the same night a young girl was raped by a group of men, and since his wife has overwhelmed him with statements such as "this is a war", every time he hears similar news he feels guilty for being a man, while at the same time he is afraid of what a man might do to his daughters. This mixture of guilt and fear translates into a recurring nightmare in which a woman is attacked, a dream that haunts and obsesses him, and that will lead him to try to get into that woman's skin through fiction. At the same time, Ismael will discover that his wife, Jasone, is also hiding something, and each one will play with their secret in the middle of an emotional wave in which silences, as always, will speak more than words.

Karmele Jaio

Bestselling book in Basque at the Donostia-San Sebastián and Bilbao Book Fairs, winning the Euskadi Plata and ZazpiKale prizes

Her Mother's Hands Amaren eskuak

First Publisher: **Elkar (Basque)**

Details: **2006, 156 pages**

Rights sold to:

Spanish (Destino)

World English (Parthian Books)

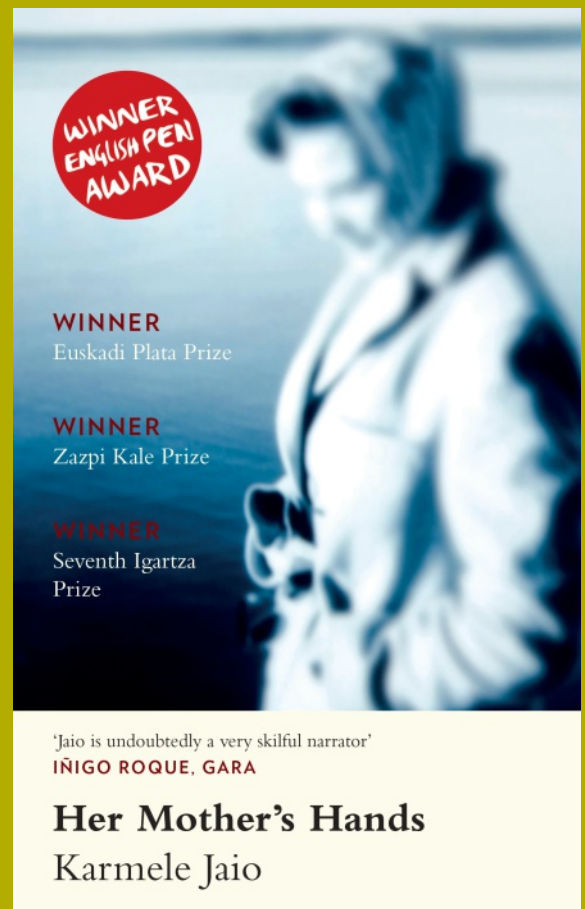
Germany Pahl-Rugenstein)

Brasil (Editora Instante)

Have you ever had the feeling of not truly knowing your nearest and dearest? The precarious balance in the life of Nerea, a thirty-something journalist, breaks down when her mother, Luisa, is hospitalised with total amnesia. Nerea, who feels guilty for not having recognised the symptoms that afflicted her mother, now finds a person almost unknown to her. Luisa is haunted by memories of a romance from her youth and soon Nerea begins to discover that the two women share much more than they believe.

Her Mother's Hands is an examination of the deepest human bonds and a beautiful and moving tribute to life.

Amaren eskuak is Jaio's debut novel, and remains one of the bestselling books in the Basque literary scene in recent years. The novel has been adapted for the big screen, filmed by Mireia Gabilondo, and presented at the Donostia Zinemaldia, the San Sebastián International Film Festival.

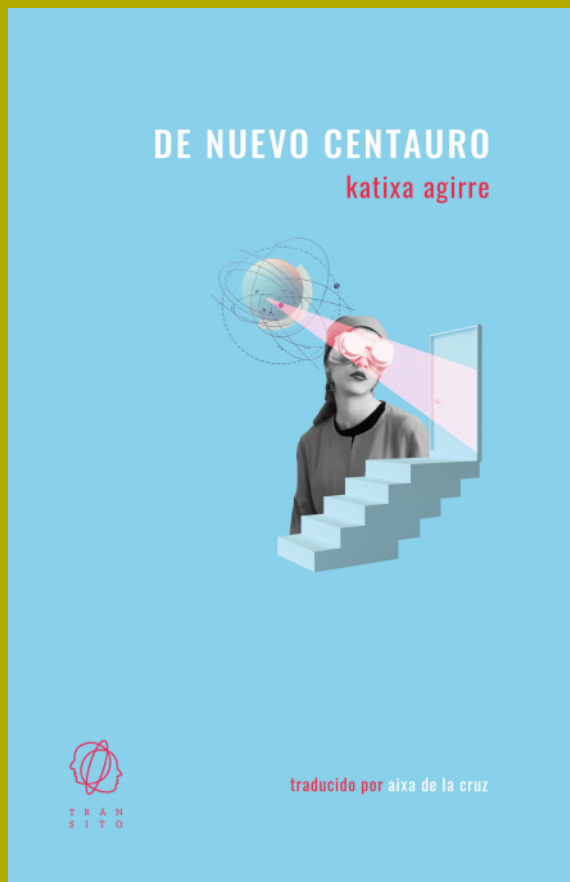


Available in Spanish and English

Winner of a PEN Translates Award

Winner of Seventh Igartza Prize, the Beterriko liburua (an annual distinction which readers award the best book in Basque), Hontza, JUUL and Iparraguirre.

Katixa Agirre



Rights sold to:

**Spanish (Tránsito editorial,
November 2022,
2nd edition)**

**Catalan (La Segona Perifèria)
Galician (Aira Editorial)**

Katixa Agirre (Vitoria, 1981) has a PhD in Audiovisual Communication and lectures at Universidad del País Vasco. She previously published the short story collections *Sua falta zaigu* (2007) and *Habitat*, and is the author of numerous children's books: *Paularen seigarren atzamarra*, *Ez naiz sirena bat, eta zer?* and *Patzikuren problemak*. She was also a columnist for *Diario de Noticias de Álava*, *Deia*, *Aizu!* and *Argia*.

Centaur Again **De nuevo centauro** **Berriz zentauro**

First Publisher: **Elkar (Basque)**

Details: **September 2018, 224 pages**

Mid-21st century. Tourism is almost gone, climate refugees are everywhere, virtual reality has invaded everyday life and everyone leaves their body in a heartbeat thanks to their avatar.

Paula Pagaldai, a designer working for the metaverse, goes to Paris in search of inspiration for a project on Mary Wollstonecraft and her passage through the French Revolution. Following in the footsteps of the defender of women's rights, Paula will experience reality in an increasingly mixed-up way. Where does the virtual end and the real begin? Are history and the present as separate as we are led to believe? Why does Mary Wollstonecraft get into bed with her?

The new novel by the author of *Las madres no* is, once again, original, disturbing and addictive. Katixa Agirre reflects here, with irony and skill, on parallel worlds, the need for evasion, self-deception and the edges of sexuality.

Katixa Agirre

Mothers Don't

Las madres no
Amek ez dute

First Publisher: **Elkar (Basque)**

Details: **October 2018, 216 pages**

Rights sold to:

Spanish (Editorial Tránsito,

October 2019, 4th edition)

Movie Rights optioned (Escándalo Films)

Catalan (Amsterdam Llibres)

Galician (Aira Editorial)

Slovenia (Malinc)

The Netherlands (Zirimiri Press)

World English (Open Letter)

Brazil (Primavera Editorial)

France (Globe Éditions)

Italy (Mendel Edizioni)

Amharic, Ethiopia (Hohe Publisher)

Katixa Agirre reflects about the relationship between motherhood and creation in a dialogue with authors such as Sylvia Plath and Doris Lessing. Is being a mother a prison? This text also delves into childhood and the lack of protection of children before the law. The result is an unprecedented, disturbing and original book, in which the author offers no answers but casts contradictions and discoveries.



Full English translation available

"It might seem that everything has already been said about the experience of motherhood and its darkest reverse sides, but Mothers don't shows that there are still many corners to explore, and it does it with accuracy and intelligence"

Aixa de la Cruz



Wait Until it Clears

Los turistas desganados
Atertu Arte Itxaron

First Publisher: **Elkar (Basque)**

Details: **March 2015, 216 page. 3rd edition**

Rights sold to:

Spain & Latin America (Pre-Textos)

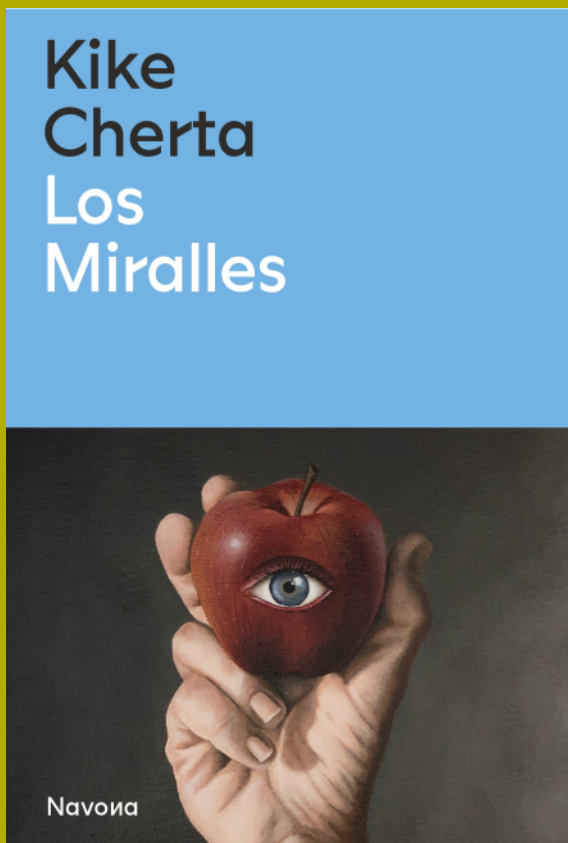
Turkey (Cumartesi Kitapligi)

Germany (Edition Converso)

Denmark (Aurora Boreal)

Bulgaria (Plamar)

Kike Cherta



A book that reveals one of the most original and ambitious debuts in Spanish literature in recent times

Kike Cherta (Vinaròs) teaches creative writing, coordinates reading clubs and has a long career working in advertising. *Los Miralles* is his first novel.

"An extraordinary delirium"
Juan Gómez Bárcena

The Miralles

Los Miralles

First Publisher:

Navona Editorial (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **September 2023. 572 pages**

The Miralles, an atypical Valencian family, are convinced that the apple tree growing in the courtyard of their farmhouse is of divine origin. In fact, they believe it to be the very Tree of Good and Evil, the same one Adam and Eve ate from when they were duped by a talking snake. For generations, they have had a single mission: to watch over it night and day so that no one ever tastes the forbidden fruit again.

Starting from this premise that is as incredible as it is plausible, Kike Cherta explores the doubts and paradoxes inherent to any tradition, the influences and family dynamics, and the guilt associated with roots.

Enveloped in a magical aura that makes it almost impossible to differentiate between what is real and what is a miracle, the novel is sustained by an ideal middle ground between transcendence and humour. Its description of customs and landscapes draws on the idea of an empty Spain, but it does not forget the importance of a unique plot and characters, who are the ones who give the work its true meaning and rhythm.

Mar Gómez Glez

Coming in 2025

Blood and its Tide

La sangre y su marea

To be published by:
Ariel (Spain & Latin America), 2025

This is a book about blood, a liquid that both repels and fascinates us. The tissue that runs through us has developed over thousands of years to its present complexity. It is a fluid that haunts us. It has spawned one of the most prolific creatures in horror literature, the vampire. It is used in rituals and sacrifices as the symbol of life and death, of loyalty and genealogy. It is mentioned more than four hundred times in the Bible.

Blood is a valuable liquid that we imagine to be priceless - because in our country it is forbidden to trade in it, although there are those who doubt it - but in the United States it is a very lucrative business. It was not until the 17th century that the circulation of blood was discovered, and it was not until the last century that we were able to determine what its fundamental components were. However, blood has always played a central role in medicine.

In blood and its history are inscribed the lights and shadows of humanity. Its nature and treatment say more about who we are than we would like to admit. Blood is wild nature running through our bodies and this book invites us to think about it.

Mar Gómez Glez (Madrid, 1977) is a writer of different genres from Madrid who lived in the United States for twelve years, where she earned her PhD in Cultural Studies at New York University. In 2021, she was a finalist for the Nadal Prize with the novel *Una pareja feliz*. She is the author of the essay *Mi secreto para mí. Otra lectura de Teresa* (2023), the hybrid novel *La edad ganada* (2016) and the children's novel *Acebedario* (2005). Her plays have premiered internationally and have received awards such as the Calderón de la Barca 2011 and the Beckett Prize 2007. Since 2019 she has been combining writing with university teaching, collaborating regularly with the newspaper EL PAÍS and escaping to the mountains whenever she can.

Margarita Leoz



Margarita Leoz (Pamplona, 1980) has a degree in French Philology and in Theory of Literature and Comparative Literature. Some of her short stories are translated into English, Hebrew and Latvian. Selected for the "10 out of 30" project of the AECID (Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development), among the ten best young writers to promote their work internationally.

Off Season Flowers Flores fuera de estación

First Publisher: **Seix Barral (Spain & Latin America)**

Details: **October 2019, 224 pages**

An exceptional collection of stories written with rare ease and maturity, with an elegant prose, clear and at the same time full of mystery [...] which place Margarita Leoz at the forefront of the contemporary literature in Spanish

Punta Albatros

Published by: **Seix Barral (World Spanish)**

Details: **May 2022, 320 pages**

The doctor protagonist of this novel leaves the city to move to Punta Albatros, an isolated and wild coastal region, battered by winds and tides. He will come into contact with the people who live there: the owner of the inn, the old people in the retirement home on the island of Goz and a disturbing boatman who owns two ferocious dogs. But this new life is also an inevitable return to lost memories and affections – to his wife, his lover, his friends, his old job at the hospital – to all that he has left behind. Accompanied by the protagonist, the reader of Punta Albatros will unravel the reasons and secrets that motivated his escape. Margarita Leoz displays in her first novel an unusual narrative ability, which she already showed in Flores fuera de estación, the book of short stories that earned her comparisons with Alice Munro and Joy Williams



French sample available

Marc Pastor

River of Sapphires

Riu de Safirs

To be published by: **Edicions 62 (Catalan)**

Tahiri has travelled to Hong Kong in search of Esmeralda, to whom he made a promise twenty years ago.

1998: In a small village on the island of Madagascar in the middle of the desert, Ilakaka, a deposit of sapphires has been discovered. The discovery has attracted people from far and wide in a modern gold rush and in a short time Ilakaka has been transformed into a large, bustling city. Violent zebu robbers and rival gangs vying for dominance in the gemstone, gambling and prostitution business, led by two Indonesian brothers feuding with each other, Iskandar and Wahyudi Thongkam, are out of control.

Gendarmerie lieutenant Tahiri, a policeman with no vocation but a strict moral code, is assigned to the Ilakaka detachment to ensure its safety. But in a city in permanent turmoil, truces do not last long. The arrival of a mysterious woman, Esmeralda, a foreigner with no past and no ties, who is able to foresee deaths, further disrupts the functioning and the violent, chaotic nature of Ilakaka. But who is Esmeralda? In sleazy brothels, in narrow and dangerous sapphire mines, in sacred tombs and natural paradises by the desert, and in luxury tourist resorts, the same questions echo everywhere: where does Esmeralda come from? Who is she running from? What is her true purpose?

Twenty years later, only she has the answers. But first Tahiri must keep his promise.

To Be Published

Marc Pastor (Barcelona, 1977) is a criminologist and a cultural explorer with diverse interests, author of culturally dispersed novels such as Montecristo (2007), La mala dona (I Premi Crims de Tinta, 2008), Bioko (2013), Farishta (2017) and Els àngels em miren (2019). His work has been translated into a dozen languages, including English, German, Japanese, Korean, Turkish, Czech, and Hungarian. He currently works with the scientific police within the Mossos d'Esquadra.

A skillful novelist, Marc Pastor is a rare exception. An author who masters, and enjoys, fabulation and who only has the difficult and noble aim of entertaining the reader.

In Rius de safirs he combines effortlessly a wide range of genres: hard-boiled crime novel, modern western, adventure novel, fiction with fantastic overtones, and all with a mastery of language, rhythm and narrative tension that engages from the first page, and with an acid and lighthearted tone that makes the reader an accomplice.

Marc Pastor



"Marc Pastor is the perfect equation to talent, art and enthusiasm"
Carlos Zanón

Requiem L'horror de Rèquiem

First Publisher: **Mai Més (Catalan)**

Details: **September 2020, 288 pages**

Requiem, an autopsy technician without much aspiration in life, finds a mysterious ring inside the body of a girl who has appeared floating in the port of Barcelona. Dead, of course. Halfway between the monstrous world of H.P. Lovecraft and the absurd comedy of the Monty Python, The Horror of Requiem makes no in-depth psychological study of marginal characters in an alienating society, nor does it delicately portray the loneliness of its protagonist.

The Angels Look at Me Els Angels em miren

First Publisher: **Ara Llibres (Catalan)**

Details: **March 2019, 435 pages**

Rights sold to:

Spain & Latin America (Alianza)

The best novel by one of the great writers of contemporary Catalan narrative



Farishta

First Publisher: **Amsterdam Llibres (Catalan)**

Details: **February 2017, 466 pages**

Rights sold to:

Spain & Latin America (Catedral Books)

Marc Pastor's fertile imagination is on par with the masters of the fantastic thriller genre

Marc Pastor

Marc Pastor (Barcelona, 1977) is a criminologist and a cultural explorer with diverse interests, author of culturally dispersed novels such as Montecristo (2007), La mala dona (I Premi Crims de Tinta, 2008), Bioko (2013), Farishta (2017) and Els àngels em miren (2019). His work has been translated into a dozen languages, including English, German, Japanese, Korean, Turkish, Czech, and Hungarian. He currently works with the scientific police within the Mossos d'Esquadra.

Bioko

First Publisher: **Amsterdam Llibres (Catalan)**

Details: **March 2013, 423 pages**

English sample available

Rights sold to:

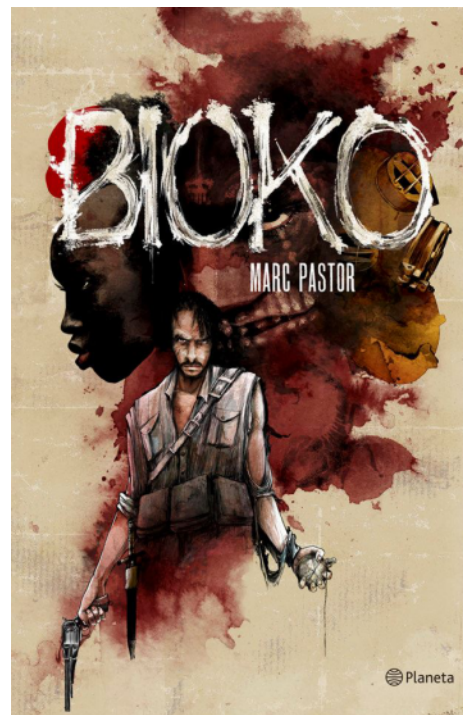
Spain & Latin America (Editorial Planeta)

Hungary (Libri Kiado)

Italy (Neri Pozza)

Poland (Bellona)

*"An exciting story where nothing is what it seems...
except for the adventure"*
Jaume Balagueró, director of REC



Barcelona Shadows

La mala dona

First Publisher: **La Magrana (Catalan)**

Details: **2008, 256 pages**

Full English translation available

*"As gripping as it is gruesome...
Highly recommended" - Independent*

Rights sold to:

Spain (RBA Libros)

Italy (Neri Pozza)

Germany (Lübbe)

France (Actes Sud)

Japan (Tokyo Sogensha)

Czech Republic (Host)

Portugal (TopSeller)

Korea (Nike Books)

Turkey (Esen Kitap)

Hungary (Libri Kiado)

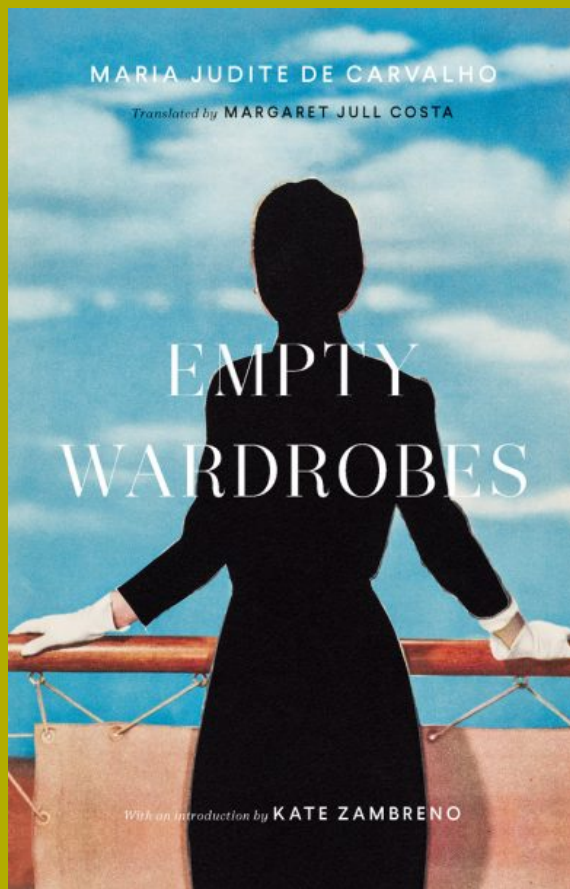
Poland (Czarna Owca)

Brazil (Vestígio)

World English (Pushkin Press)

"There's a touch of Poe and Bram Stoker - but also Sherlock Holmes and Raymond Chandler. This luridly coloured Catalan novel is a mixture of Gothic horror and gritty crime. It's gruesome, creepy and hugely entertaining" - *The Times*

Maria Judite de Carvalho



Full English translation available

"The first by this towering Portuguese novelist to be translated into English... A still, luminous book whose precise characters evoke broad truths about the human experience"

Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

"A remarkable, necessary novel about women disposed of by men, about isolation and suspension and damage, with an acute perceptiveness that will pierce your mind. Dora, Manuela, Ana, Júlia, Lisa. These women will remain long after the middling men who have abandoned them fade away, as will Empty Wardrobes, finally, thankfully, translated into English"

Amina Cain, author of Indelicacy

Empty Wardrobes Os armários vazios

First Publication: **1966**

New edition by:

Minotauro (Complete Works in Six Volumes)

Details: **July 2018, 109 pages**

Rights sold to:

World English (Two Lines Press)

The Netherlands (De Bezige Bij)

Turkey (Türkiye İş Bankası Kültür Yayınları)

Italy (Sellerio)

Greece (Ikaros)

Catalan (Angle)

Sweden (Norstedts)

Spain (Errata Naturae)

Germany (Fischer Verlag)

France (pending offer)

For ten years Dora has ritualistically mourned her husband's death, a pointless ritual that forced her to rely on support from old friends and acquaintances. Her beloved husband, a "Christ" so principled he rejected any ambition whatsoever as a construct of a corrupt society, succeeded only in leaving Dora and their daughter with nothing. When her mother-in-law reveals a shattering secret about their marriage one night, Dora's narrative of her own life is destroyed. Three generations of women — Dora, her daughter, and mother-in-law — must navigate a world that has been shaped by the blundering men off in the distance, figures barely present who nonetheless define the lives of the women they would call mother, wife, or lover.

Narrated through the gritted teeth of an acquaintance, *Empty Wardrobes* — Maria Judite de Carvalho's cutting 1966 novel, translated from Portuguese for the first time by Margaret Jull Costa and introduced by Kate Zambreno — is a tale of women who are trapped within the quiet devastation of a patriarchal society and preyed upon by the ambient savageries that perch in its every crevice.

Maria Judite de Carvalho

Review of **Empty Wardrobes**

by Maria Judite de Carvalho,

translated by Margaret Jull Costa

introduction by Kate Zambreno

Published by Two Lines, 183 pages

The New York Review
of Books



Left Behind in Lisbon

by **Joyce Carol Oates**

at **The New York Review**

on February 10, 2022 issue

"Maria Judite de Carvalho's depiction of the lives of women in mid-twentieth-century Portugal is executed as precisely and without sentiment as an autopsy"

Empty Wardrobes is an appropriate if brutally reductive title for this unsparing depiction of the lives of women in mid-twentieth-century Lisbon, executed by the Portuguese writer Maria Judite de Carvalho (1921–1998) as precisely and without sentiment as an autopsy. Originally published in 1966, it is the first work by Carvalho to appear in English, in what seems an excellent translation by Margaret Jull Costa. Deftly and cunningly written, narrated by an observer who glides in and out of the text with the patrician disdain of a Nabokov character, *Empty Wardrobes* is gradually revealed to be a double portrait: at its core are two middle-aged Portuguese women—two “empty wardrobes”—ironically linked by their relationship to a preening cad who treats both of them badly and walks away blithely untouched by either.

Though in her impassioned introduction Kate Zambreno describes *Empty Wardrobes* as “a hilarious and devastating novel of a traditional Catholic widow’s consciousness,” there is not much that is even mildly amusing in Carvalho’s steely, unadorned prose; certainly there is little Catholic consciousness in the incurious Dora Rosário and virtually nothing of the familiar domestic impedimenta of Catholicism. Dora doesn’t observe the

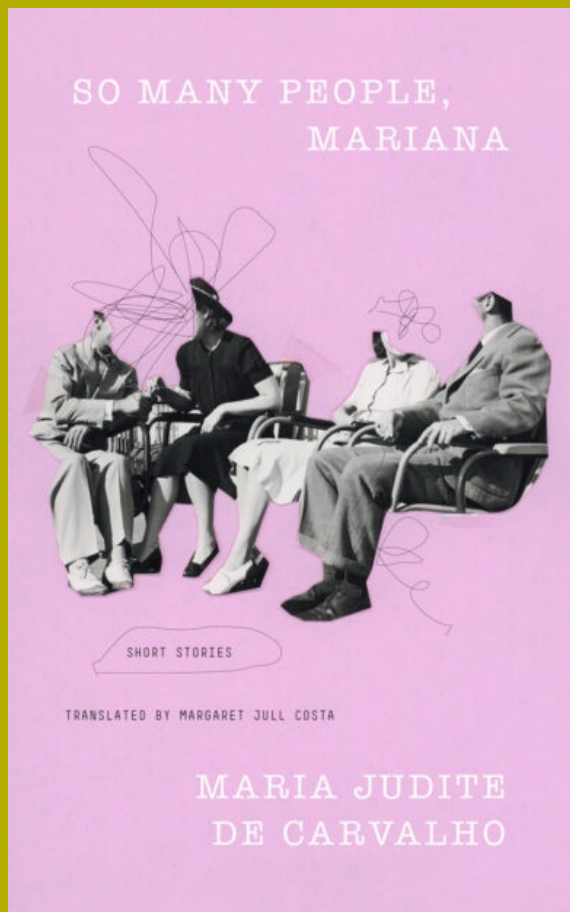
sacraments, even confession and communion; we never see her attending mass; if she is concerned with the condition of her soul, we are not made aware of it; her “religion” is the observation of unvarying routine performed with “eyes...as dull as an empty house or unnaturally bright when she became excited.”

Zambreno also describes the novel, for all its domestic interiority and apparent indifference to history, as a “deeply political” work of fiction reflecting “the ambient cruelty of patriarchy, an oppression even more severe in the God, Fatherland, and Family authoritarianism of the Salazar regime [1932–1968] in Portugal.” Indeed, a stifling sort of ether wafts from the cramped interiors of *Empty Wardrobes*: Dora is first the manager of an antiques shop with few customers, then a saleswoman in a cheap furniture store selling “basic pinewood furniture, mattresses, sofas.” Yet it’s difficult to see how her congenital dullness can be attributed to the reign of a patriarchal dictator, for surely an adult so lacking in autonomy is a special case; her daughter, who is determined to live a very different sort of life, tells her, “You married a man who was poor and lazy.... I’m going to marry a rich, energetic man who loves me.”

Read more at The New York Review

<https://www.nybooks.com/articles/2022/02/10/left-behind-in-lisbon-carvalho-oates/>

Maria Judite de Carvalho



Full English translation available

"A definitive collection of stories by a Portuguese master of the form...united by their quiet intensity, their commitment to internal turmoil, and their enduring interest in the lives, hopes, and miseries that are unique to women"

Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

*"Melancholic, contemplative,
and often heartbreaking"*
Foreword Reviews

So Many People, Mariana

Tanta gente, Mariana

First Publication: **1959**

New edition by:

Minotauro (Complete Works in Six Volumes)

Details: **July 2018, 109 pages**

Rights sold to:

World English (Two Lines Press)

Italy (Sellerio)

France (pending offer)

Maria Judite de Carvalho (1921-1998) is now recognized as a major Portuguese writer of the twentieth century.

In the short story she found the perfect vessel for her frank depictions of tragic, ordinary lives, and *So Many People, Mariana* collects her first four books of short fiction in English for the first time, telling of women and men in moments of existential conflict: with their families; with themselves; with the prospect of a better future—or any future at all. These stories, originally published between 1959 and 1967, when the Salazar dictatorship and the rigid edicts of the Catholic church reigned, are acerbic, artful, and funny. Translated by the renowned Margaret Jull Costa, Carvalho leads readers into the sensuous dark of life under patriarchal capitalism, proffering tragic visions of class-conscious malaise “as precisely and without sentiment as an autopsy”

New York Review of Books

Maria Judite de Carvalho

// A definitive collection of stories by a Portuguese master of the form...
The stories that make up this remarkable volume are united by their quiet intensity, their commitment to internal turmoil, and their enduring interest in the lives, hopes, and miseries that are unique to women."

Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

// These stories are bold and unsparing, quietly devastating. A fearless exploration of longing and the claustrophobia of loneliness."

Kayla Maiuri, author of *Mother in the Dark*

// Maria Judite de Carvalho's writing comes out of restriction and confinement, both personal and political. But as I read her stories, I find her way of looking so unsparingly into our shared human darkness brings me comfort and awe and at times even makes me laugh out loud."

Karolina Ramqvist, author of *The Bear Woman*

// Carvalho's story collection about ordinary women struggling to find their purpose is yet another gift to Anglophone readers. In stark, unsentimental prose, the late Portuguese literary powerhouse studies class, society, and gender with surgical precision."

The Millions (One of the Most Anticipated Books of 2023)

// So Many People, Mariana is a collection that takes seriously the reality, however inconvenient, of other people. In these stories, Carvalho attends to the condition of the soul, of social lives and feral deviations, and studies "the silence of [these] noises." This phrase comes from the eponymous story and suggests, to my mind, Carvalho's method: to listen to mechanisms, like work and marriage, that capitalism and patriarchy seek to mute, and amplify them. Carvalho stresses the muscles of money by writing holes into socks and sad hats onto women's heads, and Jull Costa's sleek translation reads as coolly inevitable as circumstance. These sentences lay a bloodless hand to a world flush with itself."

Claire Foster, Type Books (Toronto)

// In one story from Maria Judite de Carvalho's *So Many People*, Mariana, a man is punched in a restaurant with such force that he breaks through the live fish tank. The narrator, observing with trademark Carvalho emotional remove, notes that now at least, the fish are free to die outside their prison. Beyond the restaurant, the assault is often less literal but no less painful as the many people of Salazar's Portugal press against the constraints of their staunchly conservative society, becoming both more dissociated and more intimate until their fragile ties begin to rupture completely. As the writer Y.B. Mangunwijaya once said: 'You may not see things yet on the surface, but underground it is already on fire.' This collection burns a little but I was grateful for the heat."

Elizabeth Freeman, East Bay Booksellers (Oakland, CA)

// I couldn't put down this collection of spiky, more than slightly macabre, and supremely entertaining short stories about women trying to assert their autonomy in a society that is intent on devaluing them. Thankful we're finally getting English translations of her work, because it's more relevant than ever."

David Vogel, Literati Bookstore (Ann Arbor, MI)

// In *So Many People*, Mariana, staccato sentences that cut are followed by unraveling explanations that hold the wound open. Carvalho wrote as she saw, and she saw clearly, down to the depths, through our fickle souls and to the frailty of men towards women."

Tay Jones, White Whale Bookstore (Pittsburgh, PA)

María Folguera



English sample available

María Folguera (Madrid, 1985) has a degree in Theatre Direction from RESAD and in Literary Theory. She published her first novel *Sin juicio* (Without Trial), winner of the Premio Arte Joven in 2001. Since then, she has developed an extensive career as a dramatist, both writing and directing for her own theatre company Ana Pasadena. She has been included in the anthologies *Última temporada* (Last season) and *Bajo treinta* (Under thirty) who call attention to the most promising writers of her generation.

Sister. (Pleasure) **Hermana. (Placer)**

First Publisher:

Alianza Editorial

(Spain and Latin America)

Details: **May 2021, 192 pages**

This is the story of a ten-year friendship, from twenty-six to thirty-six, but it could be the fable of the rhizome and the butterfly: the protagonist sinks into the roots - she lives in the family home, has a daughter, writes - while her friend is an actress, a singer, lives in a whirlwind of photocalls and plans to leave for the umpteenth time, to flee Madrid, perhaps to Texas. It is also the story of an endeavour: the narrator writes the *Encyclopaedia of Women Writers' Good Times*, a work that will succeed in talking about pleasure. No more martyrology, no more dramas, no more sacrifice as the only version available.

Sister. (Pleasure) is based on real events, but fictionalised. The author explores the silence of some of the women writers she admires: Elena Fortún, Rosa Chacel, Matilde Ras, Carmen Laforet, María Lejárraga and Teresa de Jesús. Their texts, written from the point of view of repression, ambiguity, the tiniest enjoyment or doubt, helped her in that spring of 2020, when she saw her friendship in the light of an unexpected rupture.

María Folguera

*"Their goal was to populate Madrid
with visibly desperate bodies"*

The First Days of Pompeii

Los primeros días de Pompeya

First Publisher:

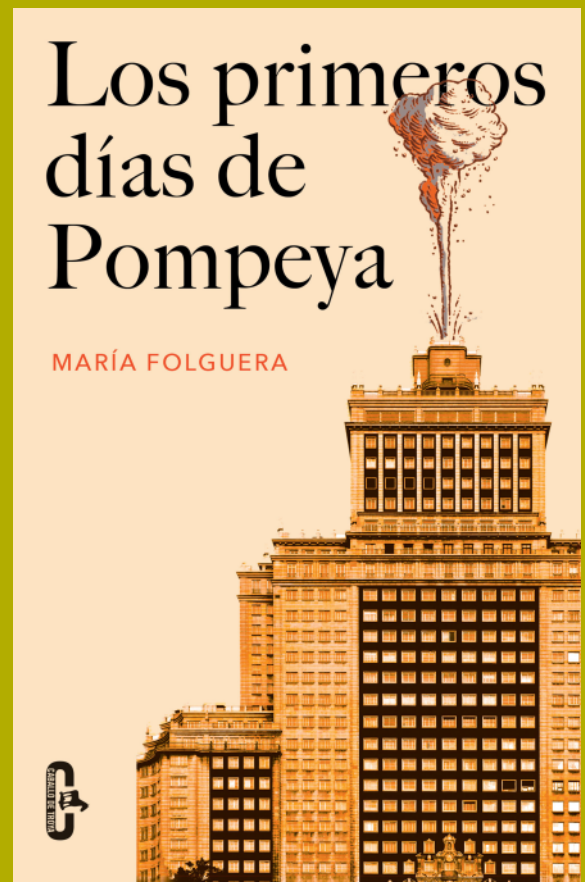
Caballo de Troya (PRH)
(Spain & Latin America)

Details: **March 2016, 254 pages**

In Madrid during the hardest years of the crisis, the capital of financial ruin, two women reveal the moral bankruptcy through a high risk performance.

The first days of Pompeii traces the historical thread between two myths: the city of Pompeii that was buried by Vesuvius and the city of Madrid that could have been eclipsed by EuroVegas. If the Roman city suffered a volcanic eruption, Madrid suffered at the hands of its President.

All is theatre, all is representation. María Folguera launches a discussion about both the intimate and the public arenas, about women and their cruel decisions, about insecurity and artistic determination and about the curtain that you must often dare to bring down.



Marta Jiménez Serrano



"A lucid, compassionate and hilarious portrait of contemporary love, written with delicious daring and a dazzling sense of speed" *Alejandro Zambra*

"These stories connect the familiar with the remote, the poignant with the comic and bathe anthropological interest in an addictive sauce"
Elisa Victoria, author Oldladyvoicea

Marta Jiménez Serrano (Madrid, 1990) has a degree in Hispanic Philology from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid and has completed a Master's degree in Literary Studies and another in Modern Letters. For four years she has lived in France, where she taught Language and Literature at the University of Lorraine. She is currently an editor at Turner Editorial. Her book of poetry *La edad ligera* was a finalist of the Adonai Prize 2020.

"The author's writing is fast-paced, and her work - insightful, entertaining and often funny - is a quick read. But she also has a good grasp of technique, the value of point of view, the effectiveness of the narrator and the precise place of the authorial voice within the text; and she has a finely tuned ear for the dialogues of young and old"

Ascensión Rivas - El Cultural

Not Everyone No todo el mundo

First Publisher:

Sexto Piso (Spain and Latin America)

Details: **March 2022, 212 pages**

5th edition

TV/Film rights sold

A kaleidoscopic vision of love that is born and dies in a big city

A radiant and emotional book that reflects on sentimental relationships and how they define who we are

The stories in *No todo el mundo* offer a kaleidoscopic vision of the love that is born and dies in the big city. Between illusions and disappointments, we are immersed in a lucid reflection about the way we are defined by the relationships we maintain and how we fit our uniqueness in the gaze of the other.

With the elegance and narrative maturity already demonstrated in *Los nombres propios*, Marta Jiménez Serrano builds, in her second book, a precise, meticulous and delicate map of intimacy. Emotional but also ironic, sometimes radiant and sometimes bittersweet, *No todo el mundo* works as a mirror in which we cannot but see ourselves reflected and reminds us that all of us, for better or worse, have at some point seen our existence shaken by the implacable power of love and its consequences.

Marta Jiménez Serrano

Proper Names Los nombres propios

First Publisher:

Sexto Piso (Spain and Latin America)

Details: **March 2021, 233 pages.**

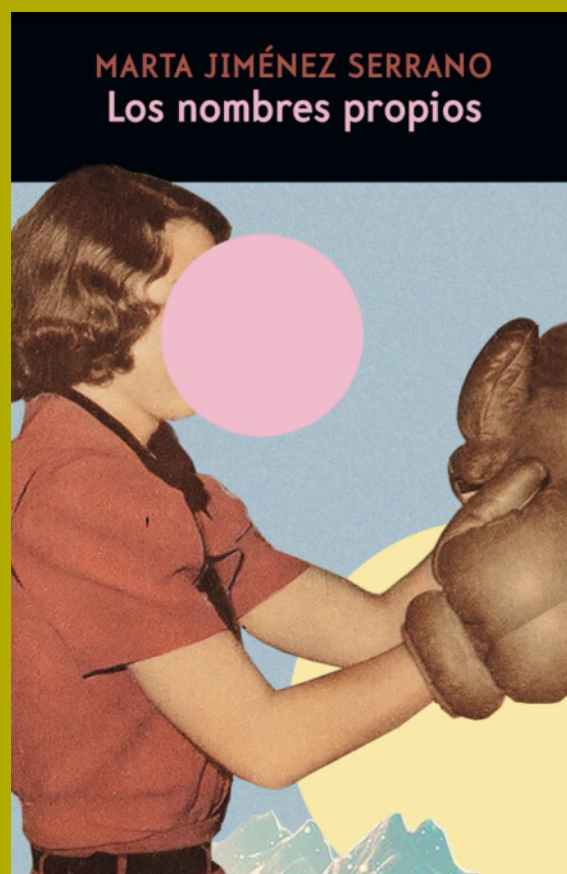
7th edition

Rights sold to:

Italy (Giulio Perrone Editore)

Who is Belaundia Fu? She is Marta's best friend when she's seven: the imaginary friend who, when things don't go as planned and not even her grandmother is able to comfort her, sits with her and waits until she feels better. Belaundia Fu is the reasonable, ideal and infallible voice that, when Marta is sixteen and prefers not to listen, tells the truth to her face: for example, that that boy, Charlie, is not good for her. But when Marta has already turned twenty-two, when she has graduated, when she is starting to make decisions that are going to mark the rest of her life, what is Belaundia Fu still doing there? She is still there because she's the one who has always told Marta her own story. Who is Belaundia Fu? we ask ourselves; and yet the question that really matters is: who is Marta?

Bright and exciting, *Los nombres propios* is an inquiry into identity and the relationship we establish with the world around us. Dominated by a narrative voice of exceptional maturity, the first novel by Marta Jiménez Serrano reflects on how we get to become who we are, on the very fact of growing up and the way we do it: by learning to name what matters to us.



English and German samples available

"With depth and truth, Marta Jiménez Serrano tells the story of a journey from childhood to early youth. Using an unusual point of view, she penetrates the intimacy of a mind that reveals its discovery of the world at different ages. Beautiful."

Elvira Lindo



The
Ella Sher
Literary Agency
since 2010

Rosa Ribas

Our Dead Nuestros muertos

First Publisher:

Tusquets Editores (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **May 2022, 328 pages**

Several years have passed since the Hernandez family, detectives in the Sant Andreu neighbourhood in Barcelona, had to close their agency. The world has changed and the family has split up: Mateo, the father, works in an office in the upper part of the city; Amalia, in a company specialising in security, and Nora, who always wanted to lead a quiet life, teaches at a night school. Although they seem to have forgotten, in the past they have shared many cases, some dead, and no matter how much they want to avoid it, they still have a score to settle, which Lola, the matriarch, reminds them of, so that they meet again and act together. Will they reopen the agency? *Nuestros muertos* is the long awaited and brilliant sequel to *Un asunto demasiado familiar* and *Los buenos hijos*, a detective series that also tells the story of a dysfunctional family. Secrets that are kept quiet, the coexistence with some mental illnesses, and above all the intelligence to solve very current issues, are intermingled in a very recognizable part of the Barcelona of our days.

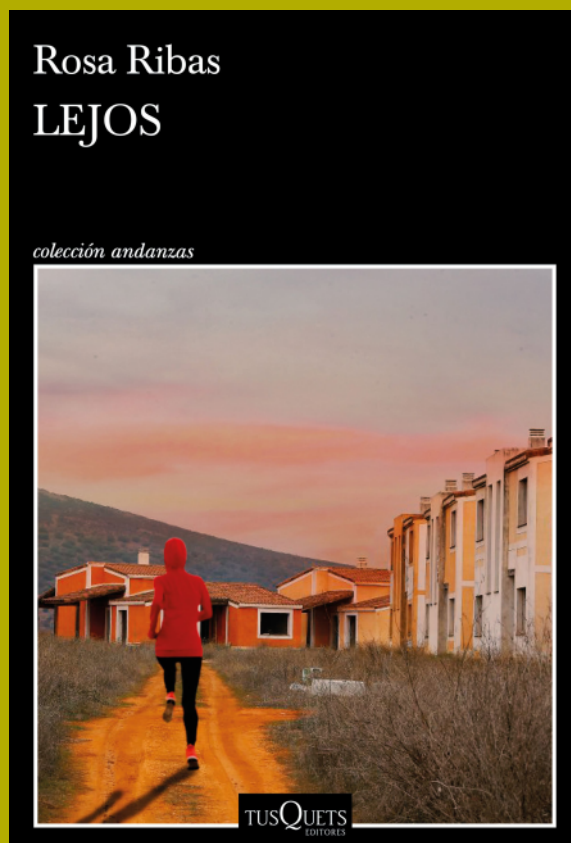
Rosa Ribas NUESTROS MUERTOS

colección andanzas



Rosa Ribas (Prat del Llobregat, Barcelona, 1963) studied Spanish Philology at the University of Barcelona, and since 1991, she has lived in Frankfurt, in Germany. She has written the novels *El pintor de Flandes*, *La detective miope*, *Miss Fifty* and the detective series featuring the Spanish-German police officer *Cornelia Weber-Tejedor*. Siruela have published the crime trilogy which Ribas co-authored with Sabine Hoffman: *Don de lenguas*, *El gran frío* and *Azul marino*, translated with great success into various languages.

Rosa Ribas



"Rosa Ribas is, for many, the best crime writer in Spain"
Pedro M. Espinosa, *Diario de Cádiz*

"A novel that turns the detective genre on its head several times, and overflows its limits in favour of literature"
Iñaki Ezkerra, *El Correo*

"A lineage that seems to grow with every page... A delight for the most demanding readers"

Marta Marne, *El Periódico*
(Book of the week)

Far Away Lejos

First Publisher:

Tusquets Editores (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **Abril 2022, 208 pages**

Rights sold to:

World English (Foundry Editions)

TV/Film rights optioned

In a housing estate in the middle of nowhere, one of the many that were built in Spain years ago, lives a small community of neighbours who try to lead a normal life, despite living far from everything. Among them is the protagonist of the novel, a recently separated woman who is focused on work and trying to keep her life away from the doldrums. Beyond the housing estate that was promised to be luxurious, between asphalted streets and roundabouts that lead nowhere, stand unfinished and unsold houses, threatening places because they may be occupied by people who do not let themselves be seen. It is precisely in one of these houses that a man who seems to be dragging a secret, and with him a fear and anguish, goes to find himself. With a disarmingly original approach and a setting that is impossible to forget, this new story by Rosa Ribas, atmospheric, disturbing, addictive, full of surprises, also gives us an unexpected love story.

Rosa Ribas

Good Sons

Los buenos hijos

First Publisher:

Tusquets Editores (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **Abril 2021, 368 pages**

Rights sold to:

Catalan (Angle Editorial)

Rosa Ribas LOS BUENOS HIJOS

colección andanzas



Rosa Ribas UN ASUNTO DEMASIADO FAMILIAR

colección andanzas



An All Too Familiar

Un asunto demasiado familiar

First Publisher:

Tusquets Editores (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **September 2019, 426 pages**

3rd edition

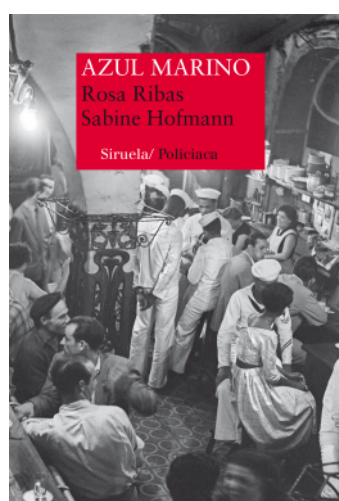
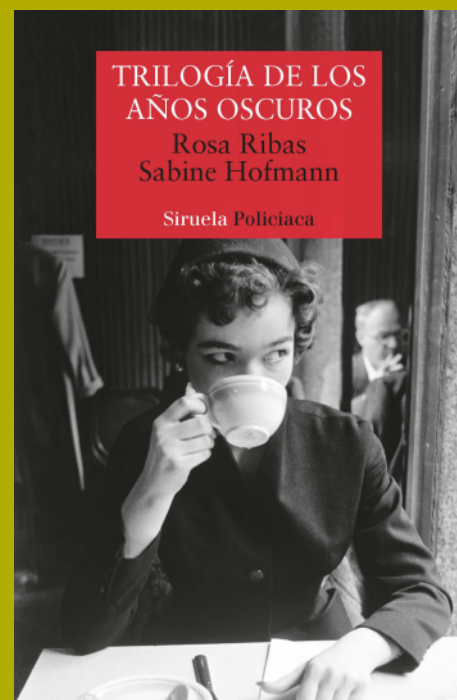
Rights sold to:

Catalan (Angle Editorial)

Rosa Ribas & Sabine Hofmann

Trilogy of the Dark Years Trilogía de los Años Oscuros

First Publisher: **Siruela (Spain & Latin America)**
Details: **September 2017**



Navy Blue Azul Marino

First Publisher: **Siruela (Spain & Latin America)**
Details: **2016, 360 pages**

Rights sold to: **Germany (Rowohlt), Poland (Sonia Draga)**

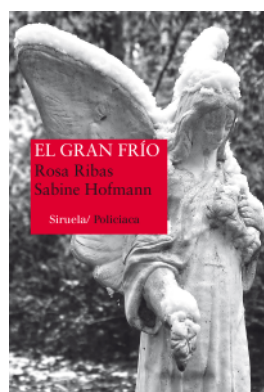
*Winner
of the
English
Pen Award*



The Whispering City Don de lenguas

First Publisher: **Siruela (Spain & Latin America)**
Details: **March 2013, 408 pages**

Rights sold:
**Germany, pre-empt (Rowohlt/ Kindler) , US (Pegasus),
Italy (Mondadori), World English (Little Brown),
France (Seuil), Turkey (Tunel Publishing),
Japan (Tokyo Sogensha), Poland (Sonia Draga)**



The Big Chill El gran frío

First Publisher: **Siruela (Spain & Latin America)**
Details: **June 2014, 312 pages**

Rights sold to: **Germany (Rowohlt), Poland (Sonia Draga)**

*“Delicious style, impeccably
entertaining, sordid characters and a
beautifully constructed plot”
Toni Hill*

Rosa Ribas

The Moon in the Mines

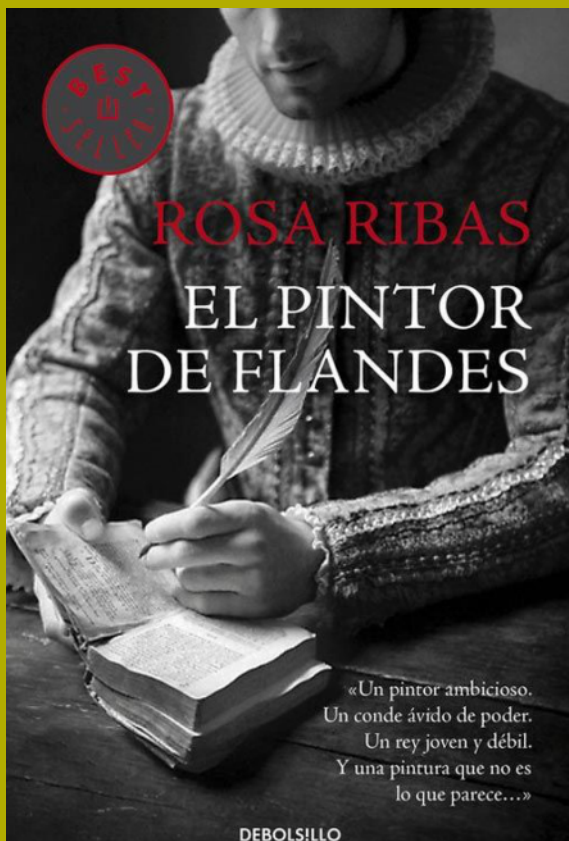
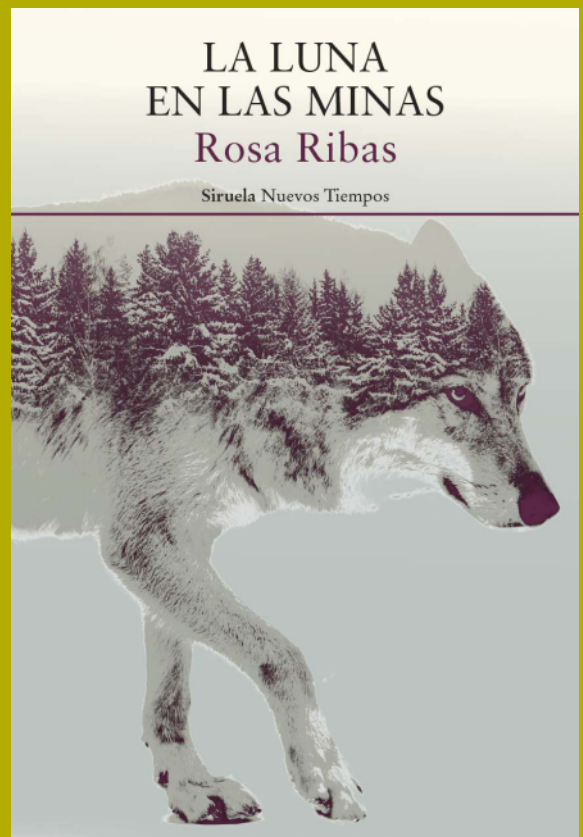
La luna en las minas

First Publisher:

Ediciones Siruela (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **May 2017, 248 pages**

It was said that during the war, the other war, our war, that he had taken too much pleasure in blood. A taste for blood. An appetite for blood. Like a wolf.



The Flemish Painter

El pintor de Flandes

First Publisher:

Roca Editorial, 2006

New Edition by:

DeBolsillo (Spain and Latin America)

Details: **2014. 282 pages**

Rosa Ribas

The Cornelia Weber-Tejedor Series

First Publisher:

Debolsillo / Grijalbo (PRH)
(Spain & Latin America)

Details: **May 2016**

Rights sold to:

Germany (Suhrkamp)

The books:

1. Entre dos aguas
2. Con anuncio
3. En caída libre
4. Si no, lo matamos



Cornelia Weber-Tejedor is a complex woman, half German, half Spanish, sometimes she's not sure if she has inherited the best or the worst of both cultures. Something of a hypochondriac and a fan of donuts and television series, the Frankfurt police constable acts severely to hide her own insecurities and is uncompromising when it comes to work.

4th
Title

As a detective novelist, her work has an air of P. D. James with its well crafted scenes and a keen attention to the details of everyday life and psychological nuances."

La Vanguardia



If Not, We Kill Him Si no, lo matamos

Torsten Hagendorf, a respectable lawyer who works at an important law firm, is kidnapped by three masked men who demand his wife to give them everything of value in their house and as much money as she can take out immediately from their bank accounts. Torsten, however, manages to escape. Some hours later, when the Police Inspector Cornelia Weber-Tejedor and her partner deputy inspector Reiner Fischer question the married couple, they discover that this is not the first kidnapping to have taken place in Frankfurt recently. A criminal approach more associated with other countries has secretly infiltrated the peaceful but ever-changing German city. And it will put the work of Cornelia and her team to the test.

Rosa Ribas

Rosa Ribas has created more than three hundred flawless pages, a lesson in narrative and micro history that should be read by anyone with an ounce of curiosity. It is a truly brilliant book, in the story it tells and how it is told and in its highly sensitive perception of events. It is a narrative free from excess, simple but powerful, a novel that should not be ignored [...] Simply perfect.

Guesthouse Leonardo Pensión Leonardo

First Publisher:

Ediciones Siruela (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **May 2015, 350 pages**

Pensión Leonardo **ROSA RIBAS**

Nuevos Tiempos **Siruela**



Miss Fifty

First Publisher:

Reino de Cordelia (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **March 2015, 264 pages**

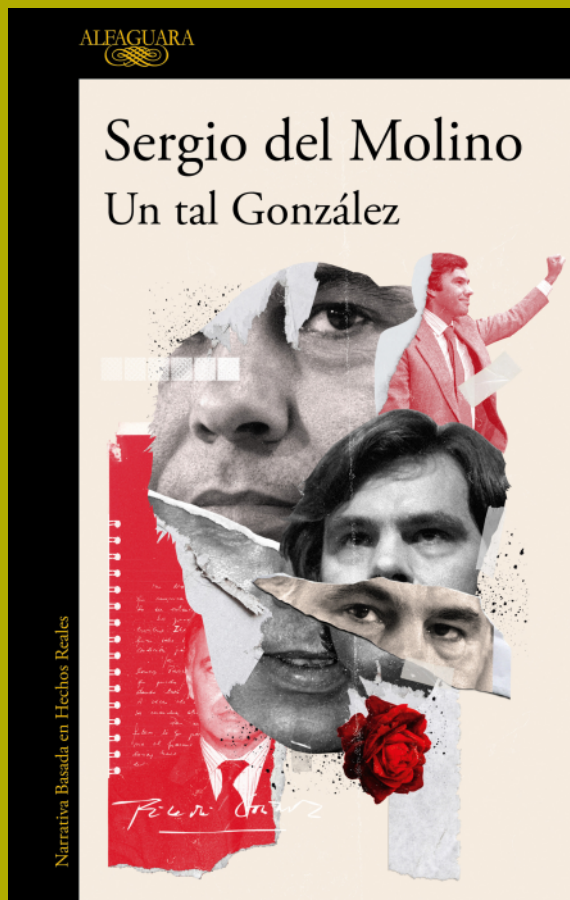
Rights sold to:

Czech Republic (Albatros / Motto)

With humour and warmth, Rosa Ribas pays literary tribute to all women affected by cancer and who have battled or are battling to beat it.

Marta Ferrer is a middle-aged married woman with two children and a job in the tax office in Barcelona. She has spent the last few months fighting breast cancer, which turned her world upside down. But now, finally, the treatment is drawing to an end, and she is at her last session of radiotherapy [...] Marta realizes that the radiation has given her superpowers.

Sergio del Molino



Sergio del Molino (Madrid, 1979) is the author of two crucial narrative essays on depopulation and "the idea of country": *La España vacía* (2016; Alfaguara, 2022), which won the Booksellers' Award for Best Essay and the Cálamo Award for Best Book, as well as making it onto the "best of the year" lists of all the cultural press; and *Contra la España vacía* (Alfaguara, 2021). He had previously won the Ojo Crítico and Tigre Juan awards for *La hora violeta* (2013) and then the Espasa Award for *Lugares fuera de sitio* (2018). He is also the author of novels such as *Lo que a nadie le importa* (2014) and *La mirada de los peces* (2017), the short biographical essay *Calomarde. El hijo bastardo de las luces* (2020) and a novelised autobiography about his relationship with illness, *La piel* (Alfaguara, 2020). He is a columnist for the newspaper *El País*, and a contributor to *Onda Cero Radio*, among other media.

"Spain's most original and unpredictable essayist"
Carlos Alsina

A Certain González

Un tal González

First Publisher:

Alfaguara (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **October 2022, 376 pages**

TV/Film rights sold

Perhaps we are beginning to appreciate being children of the Transition rather than grandchildren of the civil war.

Forty years have passed since the first victory of the socialist party in the general elections (October 1982) and the coming to power of a young lawyer from Seville, Felipe González, who in 2022 has reached eighty years old.

The biography of a country in transition

Un tal González narrates a crucial moment in Spanish history: the Transition, following the biographical thread of its main protagonist.

The figure of Felipe González forms the backbone of the story, but its focus is on a Spain that in less than a generation went from the single party to advanced democracy and complete European integration.

A biography documented with first-hand testimonies, chronicles, newspaper archives and the pulse of a narrator who has told the story of today's Spain like no one else.

Sergio del Molino

Against Empty Spain Contra la España vacía

First Publisher:

Alfaguara (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **June 2021, 272 pages**

When it was first published, La España vacía surprised us with its unusual mix of genres: travel book, literary essay, novel, social chronicle... And it has already become a recent classic about a writer's view of their country. Now, Contra la España vacía "neither refutes nor corrects my previous book, but rather It tries to scrape away all the layers of over-understandings that have been attached to it. [...] This exercise inevitably takes me back to Spain, to what the hell this country is and why it is important to keep folding the corners of the map".



English sample available



*Bookseller Prize
Premio Gremio
de los Libreros*

*Premio
Calamo 2017
Non Fiction*

Empty Spain La España vacía

First Publisher: **Turner Publications**

New Edition by: **Alfaguara (Spain & Latin America)**

Details: **April 2016, 292 pages, 16th edition**

Rights sold to:

The Netherlands (Uitgeverij De Blauwe Tijger)

Italy (Sellerio Editore); Germany (Wagenbach)

Simplified Chinese (Zhejiang)

*16th edition
more than 50.000 copies sold!*

An exciting and necessary work on the roots of an imbalance that inflicts as much harm on the city as the countryside. It is a journey through the towns and villages of an empty Spain and an analysis of the interwoven literature, cinema and history.

"An excellent prose writer who is able to be at the same time educational, critic and emotional"
Jorge Carrión, The New York Times in Spanish

Sergio del Molino

Praises about the book "Skin" (La Piel)

"You just need to have a good prose, a copious collection of readings, cultural taste, reflective capacity, analytical insight, good humor, to have received a blow from life (psoriasis, for example) and to be a bit of a monster in order to write an excellent book like "La piel"

Fernando Aramburu

"La piel is a powerful plea for fragility.

The beauty of the ugly, caresses, desire, illness and its practical consequences (drops of blood staining sheets and clothes), the character of the sick, seduction weakened by the vileness of the symptoms are the themes of this magnificent text"

Liberation

"Sergio del Molino is an excellent writer, I think he is one of the most brilliant writers of my generation and he carries out investigations of a brutal honesty, with a mixture of rawness and tenderness that interests me a lot"

Andrés Neuman

"Excellent prose writer, able to make the trivial relevant with only the power of the exact word and the imaginative formulation"

Ricardo Senabre, El Cultural

"Brave, naked, touching. The end is of a flaking and dazzling lucidity. Huge"

Irene Vallejo



The Things Nobody Cares About Lo que a nadie le importa

First Publisher: **Literatura PRH (Spain & Latin America)**

Details: **September 2014, 256 pages**
7th edition

A beautiful, intimate novel; a family portrait in which memory and the present interweave within an innovative account of his country. Spain here is depicted as being full with silences; a country in which one cannot say anything, because everything seems to have already been said.

Sergio del Molino

"Del Molino uses the first person singular in a way that is not very common in Spanish, and even less so in Spain: not to make a character out of himself, nor to give doctrine, nor to exercise a flattering imposture, but to tell what he is, what he does, what he likes, what goes through his mind, what makes him sarcastic or tender, to tell the tone of his life, his love for his family and for his job"

Antonio Muñoz Molina, Babelia - El País

Skin La piel

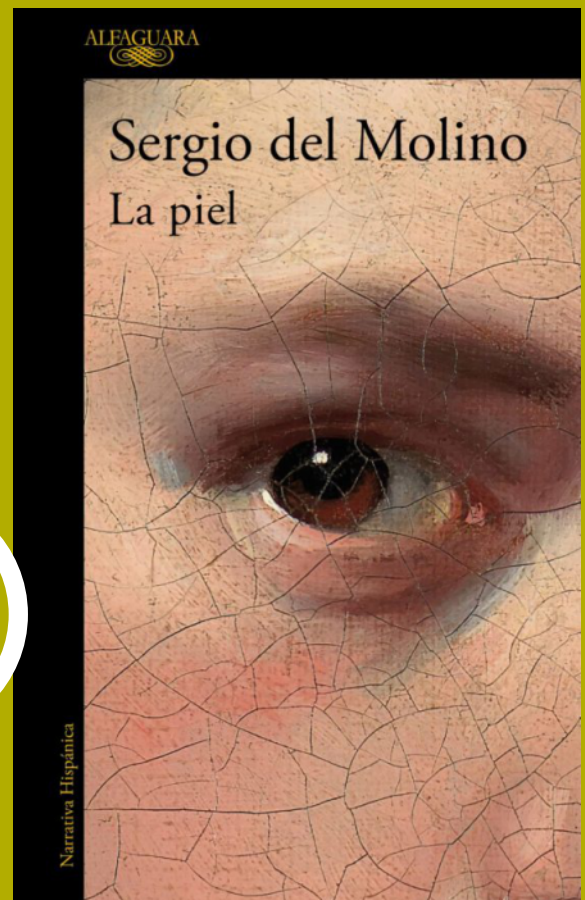
Monsters exist, but not as we imagine them. They cover themselves up among people with clothing and makeup to hide their nature. The narrator of this book is one of them. He suffers from a serious skin disease that leads him to avoid beaches and summer clothes and he sees himself reflected in the lives of other monsters with the same condition.

Human skin is the largest organ in the body and is also our presentation to the world. The skin shows the race, age, experience and even character of each one. The skin isolates us and at the same time communicates us with others.

Many well-known names have had their life conditioned by their bad skin – Stalin and the narco Escobar, the writers Updike and Nabokov, the singer Cindy Lauper and some Scorsese's characters appear in these pages – and their adventures, together with those of the narrator, tell us about image and cosmetics, about our hyper-medicalized society, and about racism or classism. In short, about a very human experience: the fear of being seen for what we really are.

*Among the
Ten Best Books Of 2020
according to El Correo*

4th
edition



Full English Translation available

First Publisher:

Alfaguara (Spain & Latin America)

Details: May 2020 240 pages

4th edition

Rights sold to:

Italy (Sellerio Editore)

Greece (Ikaros Books)

France (Éditions du sous-sol)

World English (Polity Press)

The Netherlands (Amsterdam

University press / Walburg)

"A marvelous and entertaining essay on both psoriasis and the circumstance of monstrosity, written with richness in details and with healthy humour"

Fernando Aramburu

Sergio del Molino



*2018 Winner
XXXV Premio Espasa*

This time, Sergio del Molino, La España vacía's author, takes us for a walk around these enclaves looking for reasons for coexistence in a moment in which for many is very difficult to find them

Places Out of Place Lugares fuera de sitio

First Publisher: **Espasa (Spain & Latin America)**

Details: **October 2018, 312 pages**

Gibraltar, Ceuta, Melilla, Andorra, Olivenza, Llívia or Rihonor de Castilla form small border areas on the edge of Spain. Weird, marginal and, sometimes, meaningless, they sum up and enlarge the national conflicts and dilemmas. All of them share their anachronism, their vocation to be an annoying place that ruins the harmony of the maps. They have been the dead embers of a country made of civil wars since the first Roman fantasies, a country that has always wanted to be border.

Second Nature La mirada de los peces

First Publisher:

Penguin Random House (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **September 2017, 224 pages**

2nd Edition

Rights sold to: **Turkey (Cumartesi Kitapligi)**

In this dialogue “between the past and the present, written in a first person, into which many readers can insert their own voice”, Sergio del Molino explores the guilt that comes from abandoning those who teach us to look at the world, the first betrayals and disappointments in life and the ever-grey areas between rebellion and complicity with the abject. He always returns to the figure of the teacher “coherent to the implausible” who activated the drive of a group of young people looking to understand their own nature.



Sergio del Molino

"Beautiful, bitter, essential book"
Sarah Crown, Times Literary Supplement

The Violet Hour La hora violeta

First Publisher:

Literatura Random House, 2013, 9 edition

New Edition by:

Alfaguara (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **September 2023, 207 pages**

Rights sold to:

Italy (Sellerio Editore)

France (Sous-sol)

"This book is a one-entry dictionary, a search for a word that does not exist in my language: the one that names the parents who have seen their children die. Children who are left without parents are orphans, and spouses who close their eyes on their partner's corpse are widowers. But we parents who sign our children's funeral papers have no name and no marital status. We are parents forever. Parents of a ghost who will never grow up, who will never get older, who will never be picked up from school, who will never meet a girl, who will never go to university and who will never leave home. A son who will never give us a hard time and who we will never have to scold. A son who will never read the books we dedicate to him. That no one has invented a word to name us condemns us to live always in a violet hour. Our clocks don't stand still, but they strike the same time over and over again. I evoke it in writing. I remember this year of my life in the hope of fixing its story and never turning it into a commonplace".

With these words begins this moving story in which Sergio del Molino narrates a year in the life of his son Pablo, from the time he was diagnosed with a rare and serious type of leukaemia until the first weeks after his death.

Today, on the tenth anniversary of its first publication, Alfaguara publishes the revised edition by the author.



Full English and Italian
translations available

*2014 Premio
Ojo Crítico de
Literatura*

*Premio
Tigre Juan
2014*

"An original and accomplished structure and a refined narrative voice with a marked personality that transcends testimony and mourning to place the reader before the chiaroscuro of the human condition faced with pain, illness and death"

Jury of the Ojo Crítico Prize

"A profound - sometimes brutal, always necessary - reflection on what it means to be parents"

La Stampa

Susana Vallejo



Perhaps there are as many stories as there are people, perhaps each of us hears a different story

Susana Vallejo (Madrid, 1968) is an established author, with fifteen novels on the market. With a degree in Advertising and Public Relations, she has lived in Barcelona since 1994.

"A hymn to life, death, nature and love in a magical atmosphere. A delightful text that touches the heart and stays in the mind creating echoes about the great questions of Humanity. A jewel to reread and enjoy. A must read."

Elia Barceló

Nine Days in the Garden of Kiev

Nueve días en el Jardín de Kiev

First Publisher:

Plaza & Janés (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **October, 2022. 288 pages**

Nine Days in the Garden of Kiev is a tribute to nature and to the tradition of storytelling. It tells the story of the nine days that a boy, Sergei, spends in a garden in the middle of the city after he discovers it by chance. There he becomes friends with a girl his age, Tatiana, and Oso Feroz [Fierce Bear], the garden's guardian, who tells him a story every day while showing him the hidden places in the garden. The stories of the wise guardian form a puzzle of the history of the family who lived in a mansion in the centre of the garden, a saga to which Sergei is more closely linked than he might think.

A literary gem in the form of an environmental fable that tells the story of little Sergei and his adventures in the Garden of Kiev, a magical place full of legends and wonderful characters.

A novel reminiscent of *The Arabian Nights*, *Alice in Wonderland* or *The Little Prince*, with echoes of Herman Hesse or Juan Salvador Gaviota. Without being the main focus of the novel, Kiev, the capital of Ukraine, is its setting. It is an allegory about peace, the family and historical roots we all inherit, and hope.

*He can't stop killing.
You won't stop reading.*

The Hangman's Tale

El último verdugo

First Publisher:

Grijalbo PRH (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **June 2023, 504 pages**

Rights sold to: **TV/Film rights (pending offer)**

A series of brutal murders baffle the police. The corpses have a strange mark on the back of their necks. And a note with an enigmatic message always appears next to them:

SOMEONE HAS TO DO IT

Although it may seem impossible, a serial killer is executing his victims with a garrote vil, the same instrument used by executioners centuries ago and considered the most evil killing machine ever built.

Why does he use such a gruesome method? What do the dead have in common?

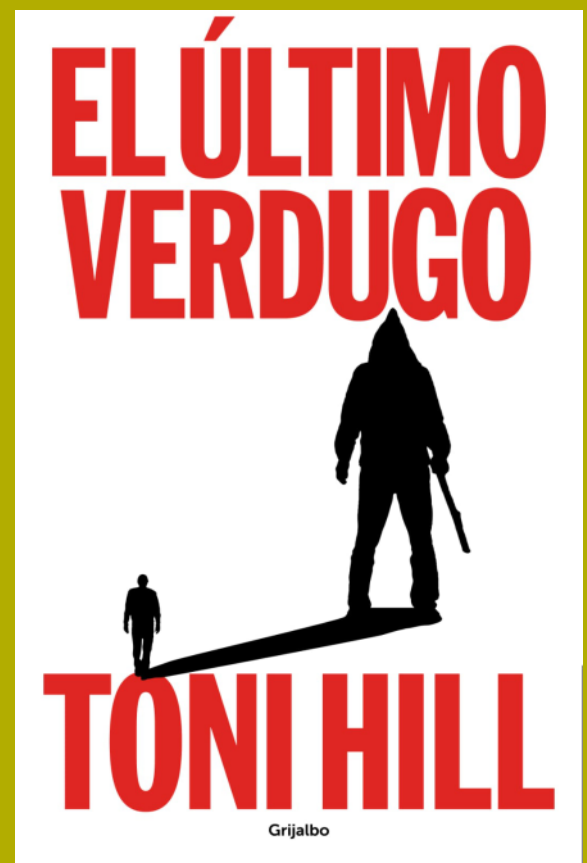
Why does he choose special places in Barcelona to leave the bodies, as if the city were an important part of his message?

When Dr. Lena Mayoral, a prestigious criminalist with a troubled past, receives the urgent assignment to dive into the mind of the psychopath, she cannot imagine how complicated the investigation will be and the dangers that are waiting for her.

As the body count rises, and under increasing media pressure, Lena will become obsessed with a killer who, more and more, seems to be playing a game of life and death with her.

On the other side of this lethal game is Thomas Bronte, an art expert of English origin. Attractive and charismatic, no one in his group of friends, made up of young artists, can suspect what Thomas is hiding in the basement of his house or what secrets lurk in the darkest corners of his mind.

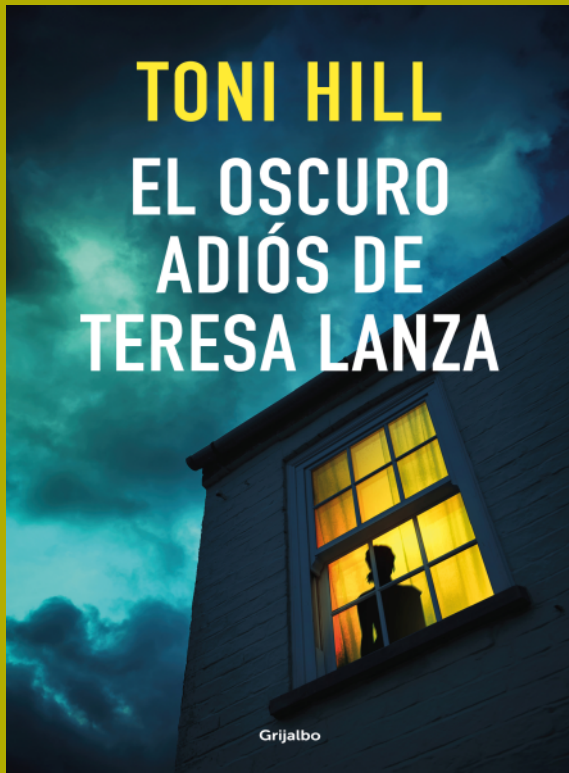
Toni Hill



"Toni Hill has reinvented the thriller from Barcelona" El País

"An author who has been able to give an intense twist to the noir mystery genre"
La Razón

Toni Hill



English sample available

A beautifully written ghost/crime story with a tense plot that moves ahead towards an unpredictable and convincing end

Toni Hill (Barcelona, 1966) holds a degree in psychology. He works in publishing and as a literary translator for more than ten years. He translated David Sedaris, Jonathan Safran Foer, Glenway Wescott, Rosie Alison, Peter May, Rabih Alameddine and A. L. Kennedy. His Inspector Héctor Salgado trilogy has been published in more than twenty countries to critical and commercial success: *The Summer of Dead Toys* (2011), *The Good Suicides* (2012) and *The Hiroshima Lovers* (2014).

A Dark Goodbye **El oscuro adiós de Teresa Lanza**

First Publisher:

Grijalbo PRH (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **February 2021, 457 pages**

2nd edition

There are not many places as calm as that residential village close to Barcelona. Wide avenues, beautiful gardens, elegant detached houses. An idyllic place where, apparently, nothing ever happens... Until the day it becomes invaded by a plague of strange obituaries. Stuck to the trees, hanging from the fences, the sinister signs show the picture of a young woman, a black cross and a hand-written question.

“Who killed Teresa Lanza?”

Five women remember Teresa, the girl from Honduras who cleaned their houses. None of them has been able to forget the terrible news of her suicide that took place one year ago. But what all they ignore is that the girl's shadow is still around, wandering silently through their homes in a desperate search for the truth.

An intriguing and unsettling novel about hypocrisy, friendship, immigration and privileges, wonderfully written by one of the most innovative authors of Spanish crime fiction.

Toni Hill

Glass Tigers Tigres de cristal

First Publisher:

Grijalbo PRH (Spain & Latin America)

Rosa dels Vents (Catalan)

Details: **May 2018, 490 pages**

Right sold to: **Japan (Shogakukan)**

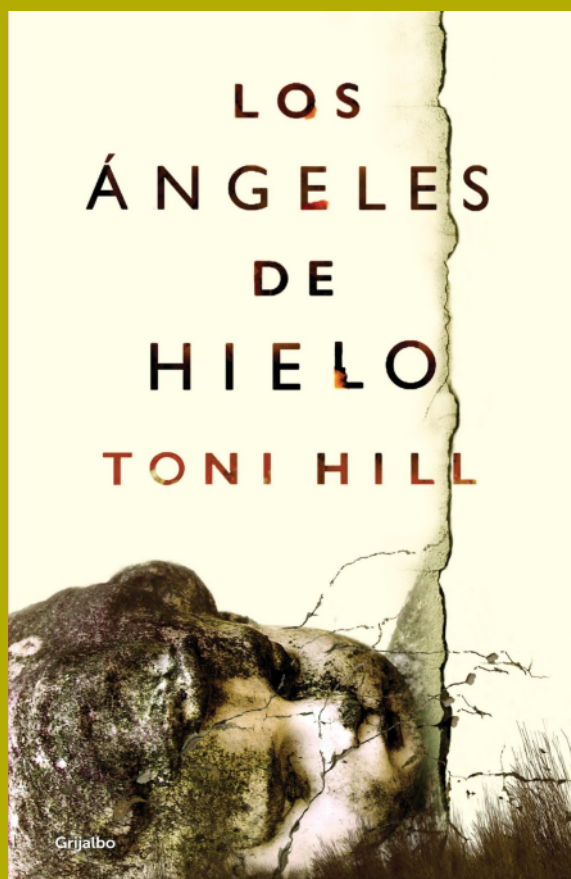
A gripping psychological thriller that explores the limits between guilt and atonement

Two old friends from school meet again after more than thirty years. Both have much to tell each other, but also many things to hide.



Full French translation available

English sample available



Ice Angels Los ángeles de hielo

First Publisher:

Grijalbo PHR (Spain & Latin America)

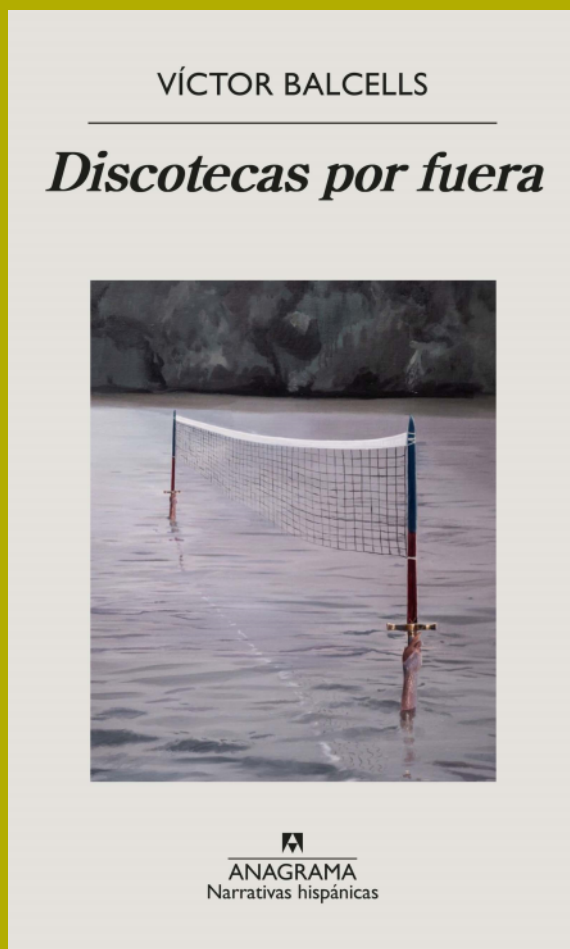
Details: **March 2016, 464 pages**

Rights sold to: **Poland (Albatros)**

An ambitious novel of psychological intrigue with Gothic overtones, set in vibrant early twentieth century Barcelona.

More than 30.000 copies sold

Victor Balcells



“Like a Herman Hesse of late cyber-capitalism, Víctor Balcells's steppen hacker wanders through computer prairies and lives in the drugstores of underpaid programmers. Balcells is a K. Le Guin of picaresque science fiction”
Cristina Morales

Víctor Balcells (Barcelona, 1985) studied Humanities and, as a self-taught writer, specialised in the creation and positioning of web pages. He practices fiction writing along with painting and video creation. He has worked as a security guard, underground driver, back cover writer for esoteric books and SEO specialist, among other jobs. He has published the short story books *Yo mataré monstruos por ti* (2011) and *Aprenderé a rezar para lograrlo* (2017), finalist of the Setenil Prize in 2017, as well as the biographical piece *189 errores* (2016).

“The mourning of a love break-up is transformed into a delirious anthropologist's notebook that examines the disturbing effects of the internet on our lives. A maddening and at the same time exceptionally lucid book, with which Víctor Balcells confirms himself as one of the best writers of his generation”

Juan Gómez Bárcena

Discos From the Outside

Discotecas por fuera

First Publisher:

Anagrama (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **June 2022, 200 pages**

The day Victor and Ur break up, he buys the internet domain Monstruopedia.com and creates a tool that allows you to identify your ex with a type of monster based on the answers to a test. As the break-up has left him shaken and devastated, he decides to move in with his friend Ju, who also works as a porn site operator, and her two flatmates, who do the same for porn sites.

A few days after moving in with them, there is a cyber-attack by an anomaly known as The Halo, which seems to affect people, altering their behaviour in a very particular way. Among the possible victims is his ex, Ur, with whom he is reunited after some time.

A dystopian (and perhaps psychotropic) novel, not about a distant future, but about a very near one. A novel about mourning and the processes of depression, crisis, transformation. A novel about a world that is virtually interconnected and humanly disconnected, materialistic and without empathy, where love and desire survive, despite everything, in their fragility.



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Virginia Mendoza



An anthropological (and personal) history of life in a land of scarce rain.

Virginia Mendoza (Valdepeñas, 1987) is a journalist and anthropologist. She has written for media such as Gatopardo, Viajes de National Geographic, Papel (El Mundo), Verne (El País), Yorokobu, Altaïr and Salvaje, among others. For five years she has been a columnist for Plaza. She is the author of the books *Detendrán mi río. Desarraigo y memoria en un rincón de la España sumergida* (Libros del KO, 2021), *Heridas del viento* (La línea del horizonte, 2018) and *Quién te cerrará los ojos. Historias de arraigo y soledad en la España rural* (Libros del KO, 2017). She has also written the biographies of Jane Goodall and Alexandra David-Néel for RBA's collection *Grandes Mujeres* (*Grandi Donne, Femmes d'exception*) and the *Juegos Reunidos Rurales*, illustrated by Narcís R.E. (Temas de hoy, 2022).

Thirst La sed

First Publisher:

Debate (Penguin RH) (Spain & Latin America)

To be published: **February 2024.**

Final PDF available in early December 2023.

Rights sold to: **Italy (Bompiani)**

Behind what we have been, and are, and always will be, lies water and the search for it. Behind these things lies thirst.

This story also begins in a place in La Mancha. There, thousands of years ago, the first hydraulic society of our continent arose. Long afterwards, thirst filled these lands with vineyards and olive trees. It was there that Virginia Mendoza, anthropologist and journalist whose personal and family history is subtly and surprisingly linked to that of the lack of water.

In this book she brings together and connects in an exciting, balanced and elegant way the latest scientific and archaeological discoveries with a host of unusual, colourful and lively inherited stories that speak of who we are today.

Thirst haunts us and drives us. It made us nomadic and sedentary, it taught us rootedness and rootlessness. It pushed our ancestors beyond Africa and settled them along the few remaining mighty rivers. It may have helped us invent bread, but it also made us know hunger. It led us to look at the sky, to create rain gods by linking stars and to a curious coexistence between faith and science: while some invoked rain with dances and prayers, others founded scientific disciplines to predict it, measure and retain it.

Written from one of the least rainy parts of Europe, and one of the most threatened by the desertification of the continent, this book takes us on a fascinating journey around the world.

Thirst unites us. It witnessed both the origin of civilisations and their collapse, and it has not ceased and will not cease to accompany us.

Xesús Fraga

Virtues (and Mysteries) Virtudes (e misterios)

First Publisher: **Galaxia (Galician)**

Details: **March 2020, 368 pages**

Rights sold to: **Xordica (Spanish)**

A story that focuses on the vicissitudes of a family from the Mariñas near A Coruña, marked by emigration, a story that is also the History of the second half of the 20th century, and which progresses like someone drawing a canvas based on sensations, memories, photographs, a mother's diary and the voice of the witnesses.

A work that has many readings and many paths, along which the author takes us as if they were the lines of the London Underground, the city around which the characters in the novel gravitate.

It is also the story of an astonished grandson and a powerful grandmother.

The story of those who left and who, when they return, are not the same, nor is the land they left.

With one eye on Rosalía de Castro's *Adiós ríos, adiós fontes* and the other on Natalia Ginzburg's *Lessico familiare*, *Virtudes (y misterios)* combines different genres such as novel, chronicle and diary to offer a fresco that moves and moves, with humour, proposing an original and unprecedented vision of emigration in the lives, lived and unlived.



English sample available

2021
*National Book
Award*

Xesus Fraga (London, 1971) is a journalist, a writer and a translator. He has translated into Galician and Spanish books by Julian Barnes, Vladimir Nabokov, Jack Kerouac, Anne Fine, Roald Dahl, Edith Nesbit, Sylvia Plath and Robert Macfarlane, among others.

Xita Rubert



English sample available

"This book is a debut, but Xita Rubert is far from being a debutante. Just wait and see what happens. I'll be proud to say, for many years to come, when we'll hear how great a writer she is: I saw her first"
Andrés Barba

"An accurate reflection on the loss of innocence"
Ignacio Martínez de Pisón

Xita Rubert (Barcelona, 1996) grew up between Catalonia and Galicia. She is undertaking a PhD in Comparative Literature at Princeton University, where she teaches on the relationship between philosophy, literature and medicine.

*My Days with the Kopp*s is her first novel.

"Her writing, full of humorous, literary and philosophical subtlety, is far from being a debut. Her appearance is one of the most surprising things that have happened to Spanish narrative in recent years"

Carlos Pardo

My Days With the Kopp

Mis días con los Kopp

First Publisher:

Anagrama (World Spanish)

Details: **March 2022, 152 pages. 2nd edition!**

Rights sold to:

Brazil (DBA Editora)

Germany (Berenberg Verlag)

In her late teens, Virginia travels north with her father to join the Koppes. When the meeting with her English friends promises to be a peaceful holiday, the stellar appearance of an unexpected guest will cut short all her plans: Bertrand is a sculptor and performer, in all probability suffering from a mental disorder, and obsessed with the idea that "sculptures are ephemeral". Visionary and demented, enveloped in an aura of charisma and danger, Bertrand sows confusion in Virginia's life, who will end up allowing herself to be dragged into ambiguous, unexplored territory.

*My Days with the Kopp*s is an evocative 21st century coming-of-age novel that confronts illness and social pretence, and heralds the arrival of a new narrator with a powerful and nuanced voice.

"More than the revelation of a voice. Xita Rubert has a territory of her own and the ability to explore it in the folds where reality is most elusive. She rakes a bed of leaves and successfully challenges us to imagine the tree"

Marcos Giralt Torrente

Yuliana Ortiz

Carnival Fever Fiebre de Carnaval

First Publisher:

La Navaja Suiza (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **October 2022. 172 pages**

Rights sold to:

Brazil (Bazar do Tempo)

Italy (Edizioni SUR)

The musical and sensitive memory of the carnival of Esmeraldas awakens in Ainhoa, a girl from the island of Limones, family secrets and episodes of violence. In *Fiebre de Carnaval*, the world that surrounds her comes alive in every word, in every rhythm that is danced, spread and that can be heard in these pages. Thanks to a series of memories, this is a novel in which chronology is imperceptible, and which gives shape to the body of the girl-desiring machine, which in turn is that of the women who raised her.

The neighbourhood where Ainhoa's maternal grandmother lives, the sea, the origin and end of everything, and the speech, which gives a vibrant life to the migrants of Limones, are the threads that weave together this unique book, in which the author's poetry and the exuberance and pain of a forgotten corner of Ecuador are very much present.



IESS Prize for Debut novels

“One of Latin America's most promising poets debuts with this novel in which language, family and place are inextricably linked”

Yuliana Ortiz Ruano (Esmeraldas, Ecuador, 1992) currently lives in Guayaquil, has a degree in Literature and Arts and is an Afro-Pacific music DJ. Several of her texts have been published in digital and printed magazines and anthologies in Mexico, Argentina, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Chile, the United States, Spain and Portugal.

She has published the poetry books *Sovoz* (2016), *Canciones desde el el mundo* (Libero, 2021) and *Cuaderno del imposible retorno a Pangea* (2021).

Fiebre de carnaval is her first novel.

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