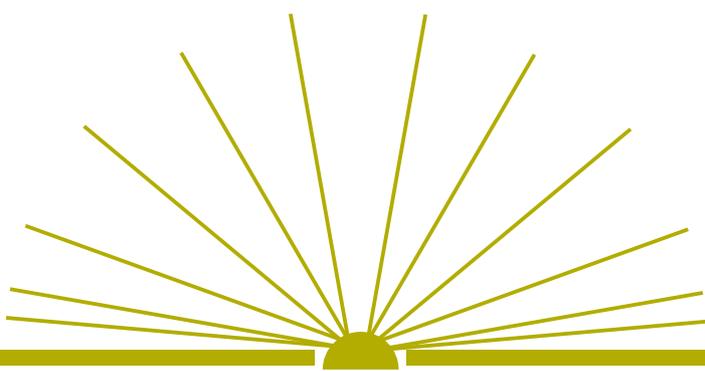




The
Ella Sher
Literary Agency



Spring
Catalogue
2026

authors

Alex Chico (Spanish)
Alexis Ravelo (Spanish)
Álvaro Ceballos (Spanish)
Ana Luísa Amaral (Portuguese)
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Margarita Leoz (Spanish)
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Nerea Pallares (Spanish)
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Paula Carrasco (Spanish - Chile)
Paula Ducay (Spanish)
Rosa Ribas (Spanish)
Sergio del Molino (Spanish)
Tomás Sánchez Bellocchio (Spanish - Argentina)
Toni Hill (Spanish)
Victor Lapuente (Spanish)
Virginia Mendoza (Spanish)

clients

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(for Italy)

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)

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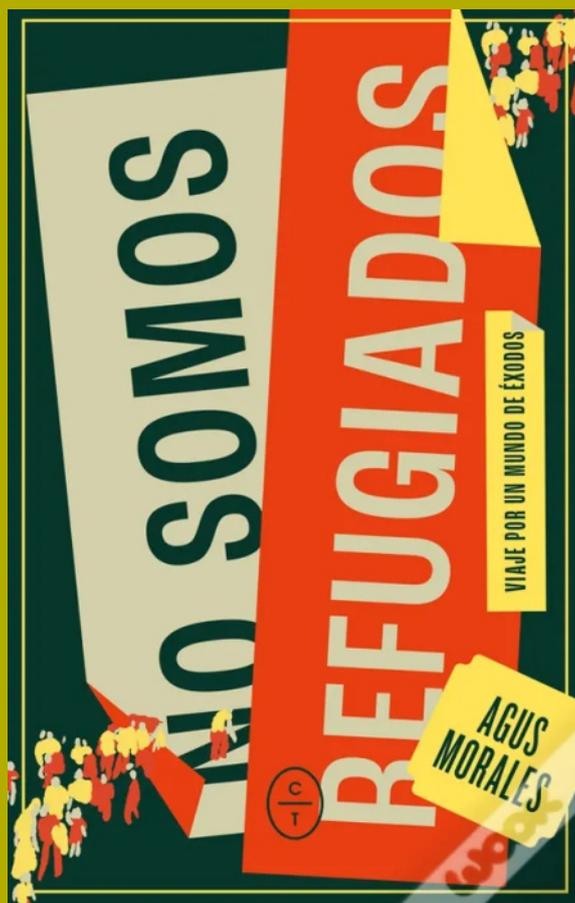
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Agus Morales



“A few years ago I thought a lot about trying to write something like this, a book about new borders, and since then, every so often, I ask myself why I haven’t done it. Now I can answer myself with conviction: because Agus Morales has already written it”

Martin Caparrós

“With a clean technique and direct composition, devoid of any retouching, Anna Surinyach has photographed hundreds, thousands of people in search of their dreams”

Alberto Rojas, El Mundo

We Are Not Refugees No somos refugiados

First Publisher:

Círculo de Tiza (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **March 2017, 380 pages**

Rights sold to:

World English (Charlesbridge Publishing)

Poland (Wydawnictwo Poznanskie)

Catalan (Rata/Catedral)

Italy (Einaudi)

This book follows the footsteps of those exiled by violence. The journalist Agus Morales gives a voice to those who have been forced to flee. He travels to the origins of the conflicts in Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, The Central African Republic and Southern Sudan. He walks with the Central Americans who travel across Mexico and with the Congolese people who escape from dangerous, armed groups. He spends time in the camps in Jordan and in the exiled Tibetan government seat. And he arrives at the ultimate border, the hardest and most difficult to cross: the West.

Anna Surinyach (Barcelona, 1985) is a freelance photojournalist. She has worked with Doctors Without Borders and now is the graphic editor of 5W.

Agus Morales

Solidarity hypocrisy La hipocresía solidaria

First Publisher:

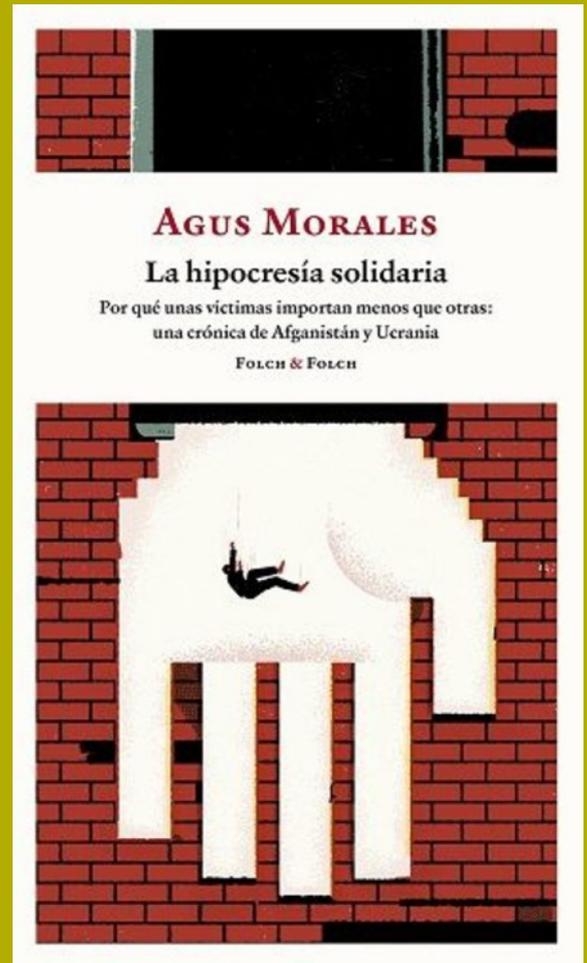
Folch&Folch (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **March 2025, 288 pages**

*Why some victims matter less than others:
a chronicle of Afghanistan and Ukraine*

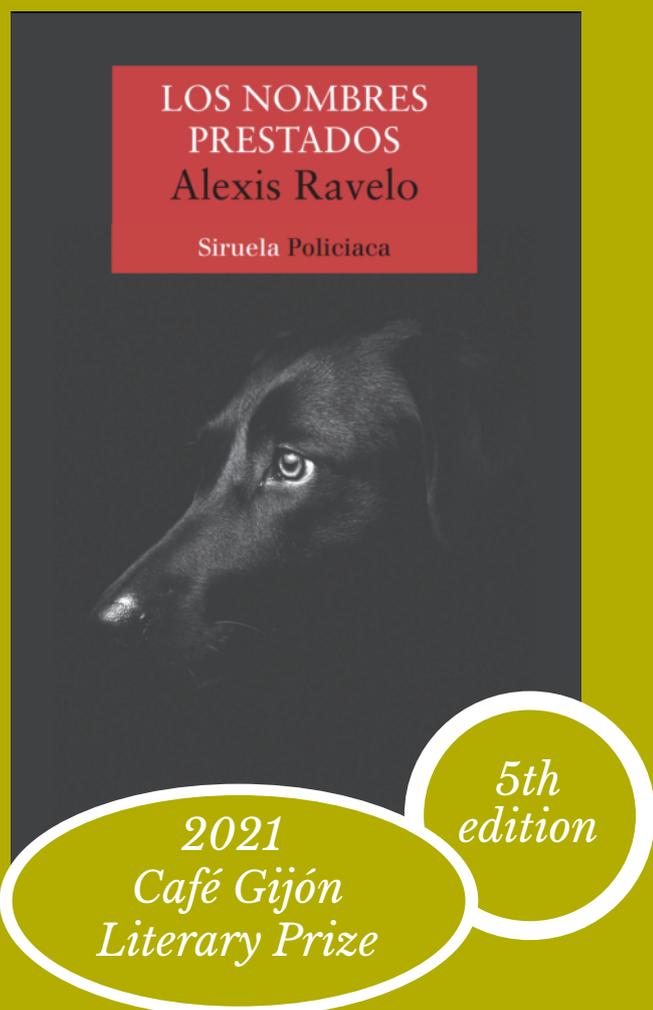
The war in Ukraine showed that it is possible to shelter and assist millions of people without public services collapsing, without setting off alarm bells. Why wasn't the same done in other conflicts, such as Afghanistan, where NATO countries had troops deployed? Why do some victims matter less than others? Reporter Agus Morales travelled to seek answers through reflection and journalistic reporting.

The result is a book that not only aims to reflect on racism, cultural supremacy, Islamophobia, geopolitics and classism, but also touches on and feels these issues in order to recount them in a way that is both critical and humane.



*Solidarity hypocrisy has become
a weapon of political realism*

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, *Los nombres prestados* 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:

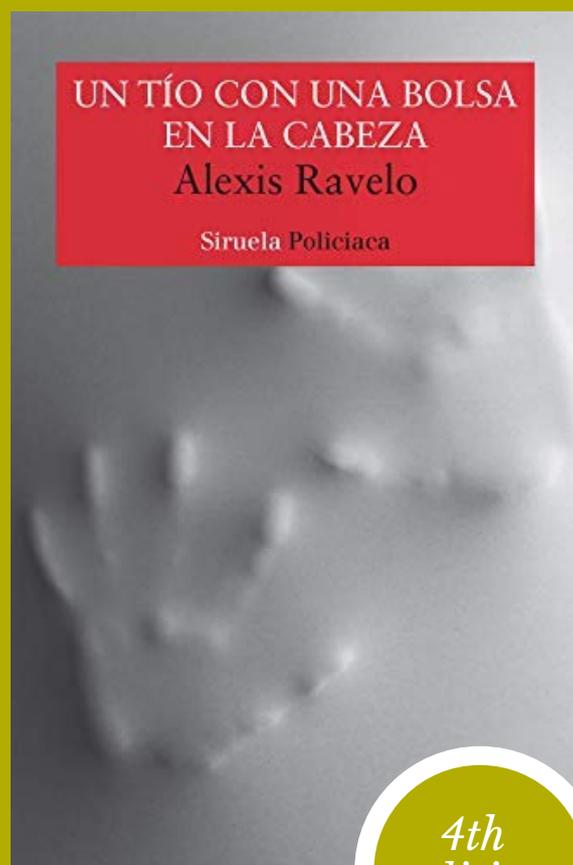
Siruela (Spain & Latin America)

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

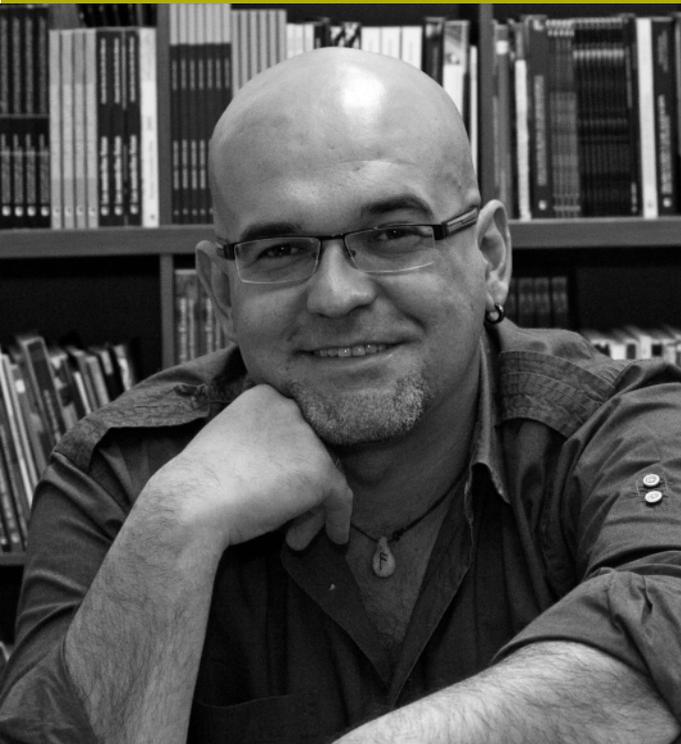
«Ravelo is one of the leading figures in crime fiction today. He is a writer who likes to get dirty, to deal with the murkiest subjects.»

(Paula Corroto, El Confidencial)

«It is impossible to condense everything that this great novel is into a single sentence. What the reader should do is jump into it without hesitation.»

(Marta Marne, El Periódico)

Alexis Ravelo



Alexis Ravelo 1973 - 2023

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 about 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."

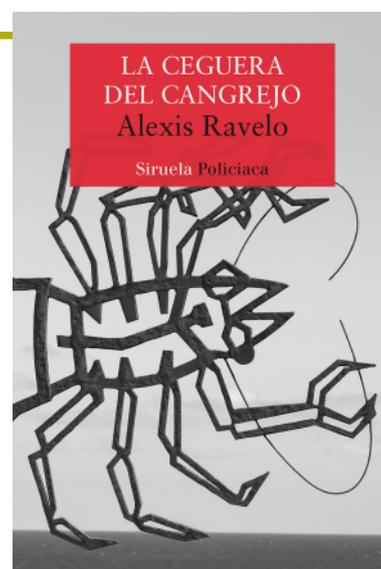
Canarias Ahora, El Diario.es

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:

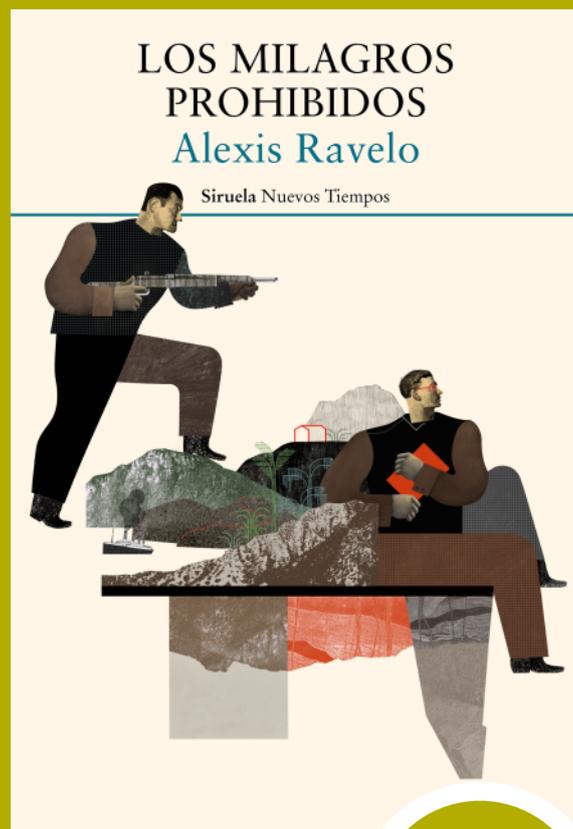
Siruela (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **March 2017, 332 pages**

11th 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.

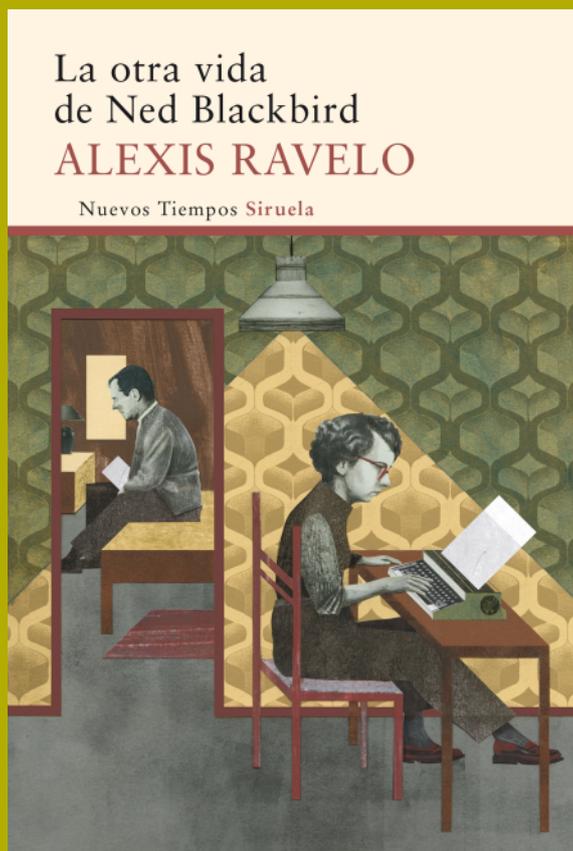
Agustín Santos, a leftist teacher, wanders through the mountains of La Palma with a revolver which he does not wish to use. He overlooks the fact that among his persecutors is the man known as Floro the Ferret. Rejected by Emilia, Agustín's wife, the Ferret has the perfect opportunity to get rid of his 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.



*11th
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**

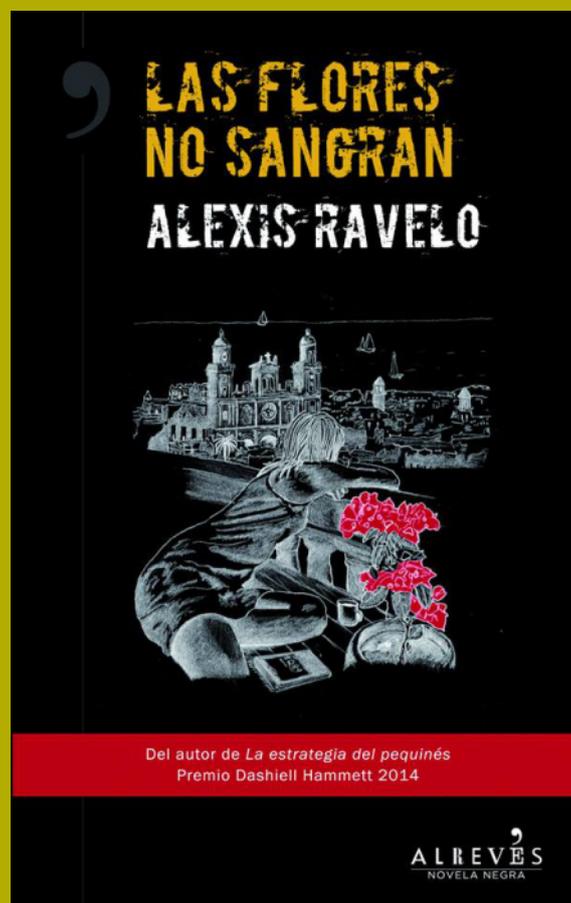
Rights sold to:

Movie Rights Sold

“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*

Full French translation available



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*



*Premio
Hammett
2013*

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



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The
Ella Sher
Literary Agency
since 2010

Álvaro Ceballos

La lectura salvaje is a book about how we read when no one sees us

Wild Reading What we do with literature and what it does with us La lectura salvaje Qué hacemos con la literatura y qué hace ella con nosotros

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

Details: **April 2025, 248 pages**

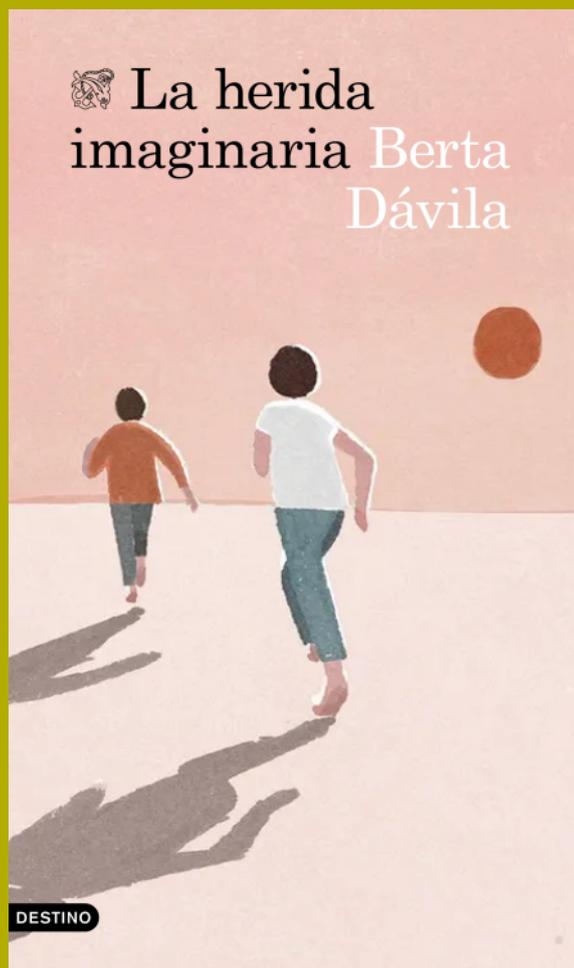
La lectura salvaje is not a book about how reading makes us better, about how literature transports us to other worlds, about how fiction allows us to live imaginary lives and can transform reality. Rather, it is a book about the extent to which these commonplaces about literary reading are true.

Made up of short chapters, close to the form of a diary, rarely longer than three or four pages, many of these chapters refer to ideas and experiments that try to understand what happens when we read, what reading does to us and what we do with what we read. After finishing it, the reader may never be able to read 'wildly' again, but he or she will have been entertained and will have laughed, will have learned a lot and will have come to the conclusion that, once again, the best books are the ones that are hardest to tell. They must be read.



Álvaro Ceballos (Madrid, 1977), a philologist and writer, holds a PhD from the University of Göttingen and has been a professor of Spanish literature at the University of Liège since 2008. He is the author or co-author of several titles on literary studies and critical anthologies, such as *Las letras de la República* (2021), and a contributor to the press. His first novel, *La Edad de Tiza*, was published in 2022.

Berta Dávila



English sample available

Berta Dávila (Santiago de Compostela, 1987) is of the most recognised and acclaimed Galician authors in recent years by both public and critics. For *Carrusel* (2019) – translated into Spanish – she received the Manuel García Barros Novel Prize and the Spanish Critics' Prize for narrative in the Galician language, which she had also won, in the category of poetry in the Galician language, with the collection of poems *Raíz da fenda* (2013). With *Los seres queridos* (Destino, 2022) she won the Xerais Novel Prize, the Follas Novas Prize for the best book of 2022 and the Galician Critics' Prize. *La herida imaginaria* (Destino, 2024) is her most recent novel has been published simultaneously in Galician, Spanish and Catalan.

The Imaginary Wound La herida imaginaria

First Publisher: **Xerais (Galician), January 2024**

Rights sold to:

World Spanish (Destino, January 2024, 160 pages)

Portuguese (Portugal, Limoeiro Real)

Catalan (Les Hores)

This is the story of two estranged pairs of sisters, two orange fish and a domestic goose. And also that of the inhabitants of the village of Soutelo, in the north of Galicia.

The first total solar eclipse to be seen in this part of the world in a long time is just around the corner, but none of the protagonists are particularly interested in the phenomenon: all four are immersed in their own darkness. Because the characters in this novel are running away, but they don't always know from what. Like celestial bodies, they influence each other without touching.

La herida imaginaria is about the search for solace, about the relationship between chance and destiny and about the encounter between memory and imagination; it explores the possibility that life has no purpose and the influence that uprootedness and lack have on dreams and the future.

Berta Dávila

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

The Dear 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)

Portugal (Penguin RH Portugal)

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 account 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.

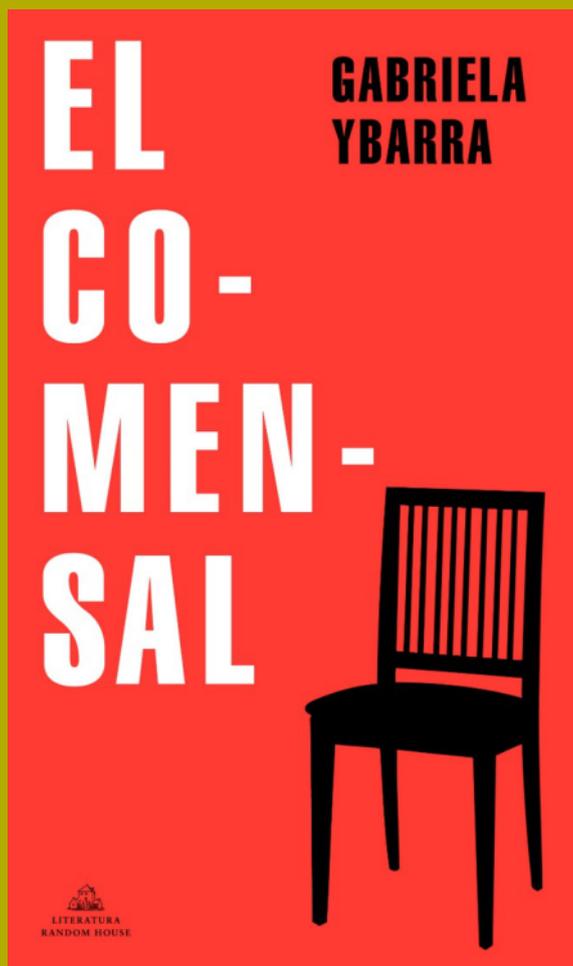
With penetrating and evocative writing, *Los seres queridos* attempts to delve into the meaning of the bonds that sustain us and how literature is capable of capturing what we find difficult to name.



Full English translation available

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

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.

Ismael Ramos

"Sharp, fine-tuned stories, exact in their silences and furious in their subtleties, that transcend the circumstances of their characters. A puzzle that Amy Hempel would have composed, and in which the reader contributes the final piece."

Elena Medel, author of Las maravillas

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.



English sample available

One of the best narrative debuts of 2023 according to El Mundo

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.

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 combats, 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:

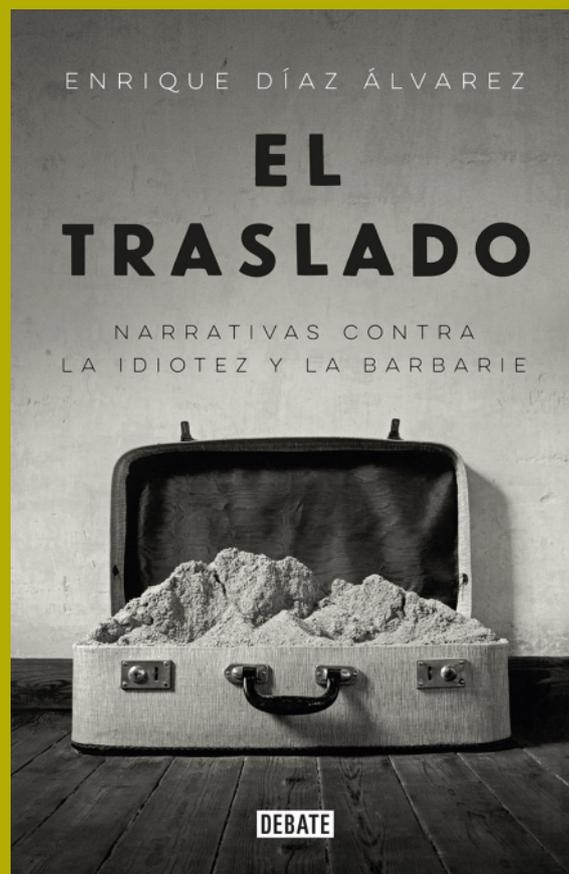
Debate (Penguin RH)
(Spain & Latin America)

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.

Enrique Díaz Álvarez

**Enrique
Díaz Álvarez**

Lo intolerable

Repulsión, vergüenza
y responsabilidad colectiva
ante la crueldad contemporánea

nuevos cuadernos anagrama 

*What happens when
cruelty ceases to shock us?*

*When violence is no longer an
aberration, but a governing strategy?*

*With this work Enrique Díaz Álvarez
confirms his position as a writer capable
of transforming political analysis into
moral literature—challenging, unsettling,
and impossible to ignore.*

*A book that does not offer comfort.
A book that insists on responsibility.*

The Unbearable Revulsion, shame, and collective responsibility against contemporary cruelty **Lo intolerable**

First Publisher:

Anagrama (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **April 2026, 152 pages**

Award-winning essayist Enrique Díaz Álvarez delivers a searing, lucid investigation into the normalization of cruelty in contemporary politics and into our own moral position as witnesses.

Moving across today's most unsettling political landscapes—from El Salvador under Nayib Bukele to the current governments of Israel and the United States—Díaz Álvarez examines how violence is deployed not only as force, but as spectacle, deterrent, and language of power.

This is an essay about repulsion, shame, and collective responsibility: the emotions we experience when confronted with images and narratives of brutality, and the ethical crossroads they reveal.

Drawing on thinkers such as Michel Foucault, Angela Davis, John Berger, Richard Mosse, Hannah Arendt, Susan Sontag, and Giorgio Agamben, Díaz Álvarez reconstructs the moment when intellectual thought becomes political action—and when looking itself becomes a moral act.

Written in a precise, sober, and deeply literary style, *Lo Intolerable* refuses sensationalism. Instead, it appeals directly to the reader's conscience, asking how empathy can survive in an era of desensitization—and whether attention itself can still function as a form of resistance.

Like the best contemporary essays, this is a compact yet powerful book: intellectually rigorous but accessible, urgent without being didactic. It speaks to readers of Omar El Akkad, Javier Zamora, and Juan Pablo Villalobos, and to anyone grappling with the ethical consequences of living in a world where cruelty is increasingly framed as necessity.

Jon Bilbao

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

Before the Volcano Recovered Stories

**Antes del volcán
Los cuentos recuperados**

First Publisher:

**Editorial Impedimenta
(Spain & Latin America)**

Details: **October 2025. 624 pages**

The first three collections of short stories that Bilbao published before joining Impedimenta, brought together for the first time in a single volume. The cornerstone of one of the most powerful voices in Spanish short fiction.

Before the Volcano is the underground map of an eruption. In these stories—taken from three now legendary and long out-of-print books: *Como una historia de terror*, *Bajo el influjo del cometa*, and *Física familiar*, to which three unpublished stories are added as bonus tracks.

Jon Bilbao explores the moment when everyday life cracks and reveals a breach.

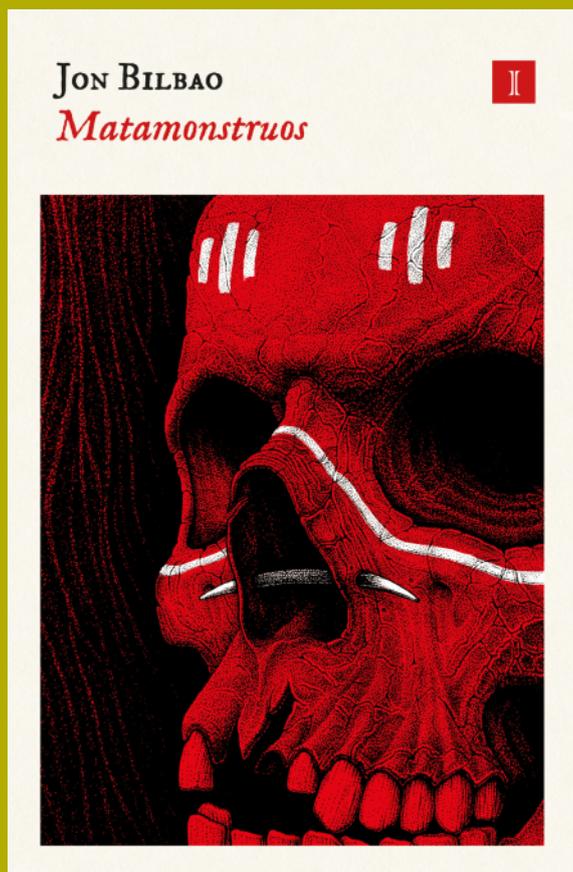
Stories that swing between invisible tension and emotional rifts, natural threats and intimate delusions, the gothic and the everyday.

Tales that, like frozen lava, retain their temperature intact.



A cartography of the fear that inhabits us. The exact point where everything begins to shift beneath our feet.

Jon Bilbao



“A celebration of narrative, of the sheer joy of storytelling that is essential in any story”
ABC Cultural

“Jon Bilbao seems to want to build in each of his books a map of the inexplicable”
El periódico de Cataluña

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.

The culmination of one of the most celebrated and brilliant western sagas of recent times

«Jon Bilbao possesses an uncommon mastery»
El País, Babelia

Monsters killer Matamonstruos

First Publisher:

Editorial Impedimenta
(Spain & Latin America)

Details: **September 2024, 329 pages**
2nd Edition!

John Dunbar, known as «the Basilisk», wants to turn his back on his past of brutality and wandering and finally live in peace with his family. He settles with Lucretia and their daughter, Felicidad, in the inhospitable Valley of the Rocks, in the heart of Navajo territory. However, he will be pursued there by the most terrifying enemies he has ever known, enemies that do not seem to come from his own world. On his side, Jon, the writer and creator of the adventures of the Basilisk, returns to his hometown. He intends to renovate the old family house and move into it. Meanwhile, in the far West, Dunbar welcomes the son of an old enemy and doubts the love of Lucretia, difficulties for which his experience as a gunfighter has not prepared him, Jon encounters a rival who was about to ruin his life and seems ready to try again. Thus, the lives of the character and his author approach each other until they are almost confused.

Matamonstruos concludes the successful saga begun in *Basilisco* and continued in *Araña*, and retakes characters from his previous books, such as the novel *Los extraños*, in an epic, rounded closure, in a masterful game of mirrors between reality and fiction.

Jon Bilbao

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

Spider Araña

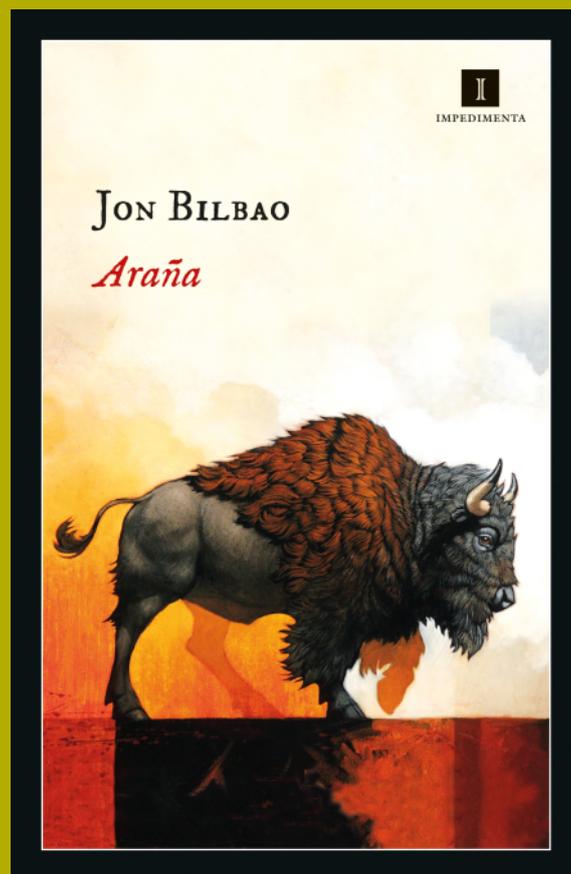
First Publisher:

Editorial Impedimenta
(Spain & Latin America)

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

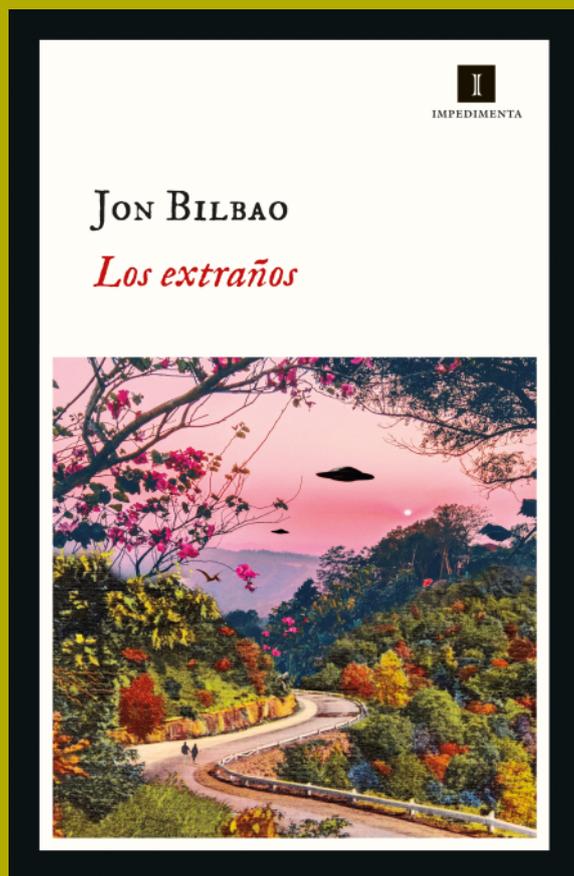
The sullen gunslinger John Dunbar, known as Basilisk, is hired as a guide by a group of pilgrims travelling across America in search of the Men's Paradise, a promised land reserved only to men. During the journey, Dunbar begins a relationship with Lucrecia, sister of the enlightened leader of the pilgrims, 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 samples 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 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.

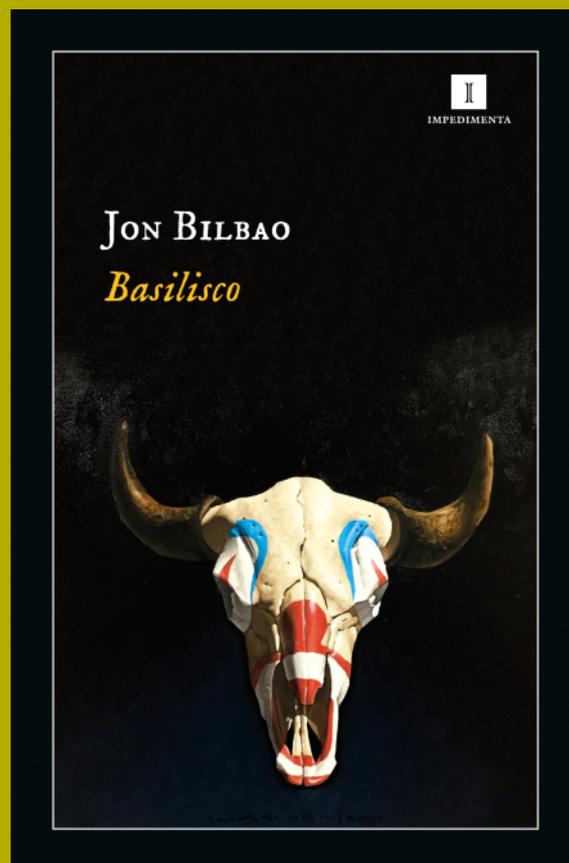
Jon Bilbao

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)

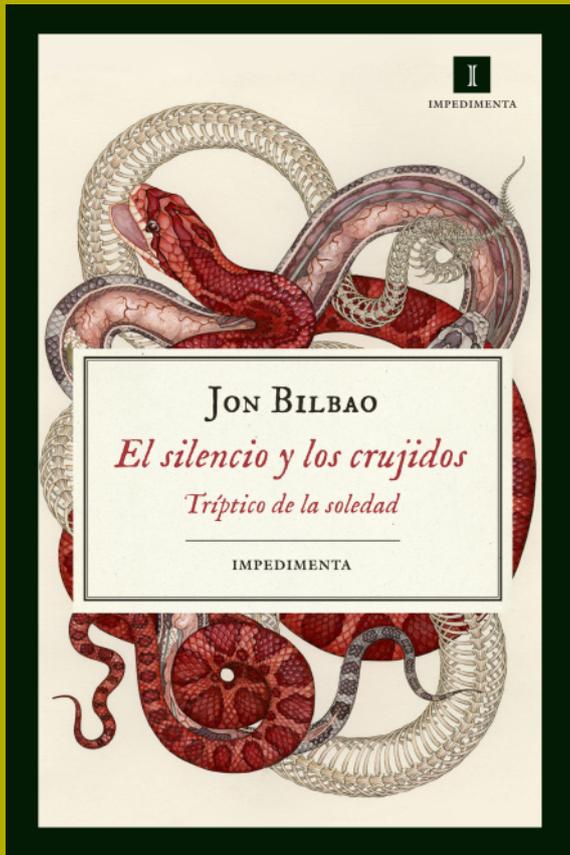
Details: **June 2020, 320 pages**
6th edition!

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**

2nd Edition

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**

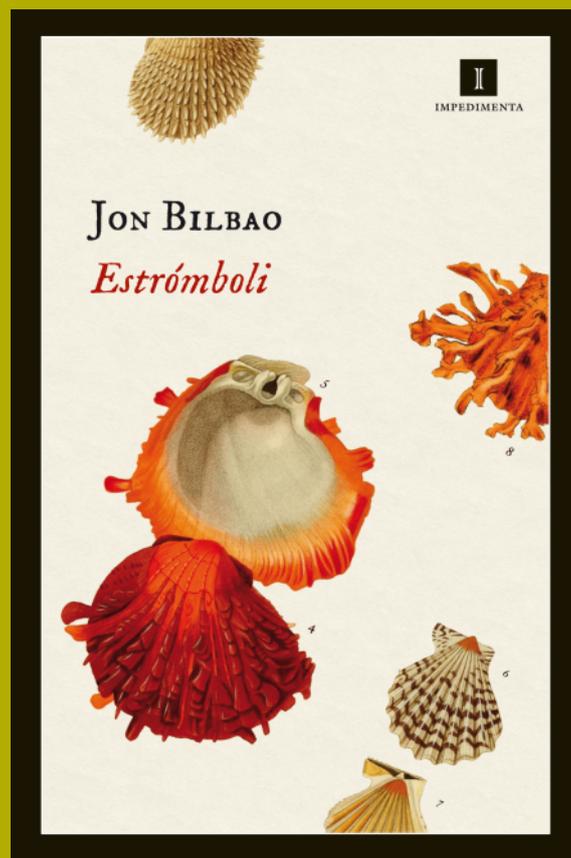
First Publisher:

Editorial Impedimenta
(Spain & Latin America)

Details: **February 2016, 272 pages**
Short Stories, 4th 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 one?

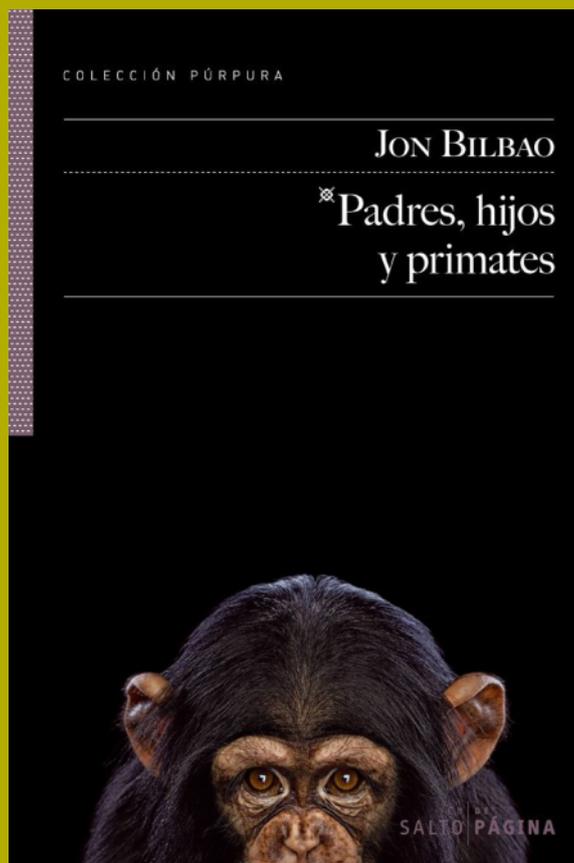


Jon Bilbao exhibits a rare mastery
El País, Babelia

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 Página
(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.

Shakespeare and the White Whale

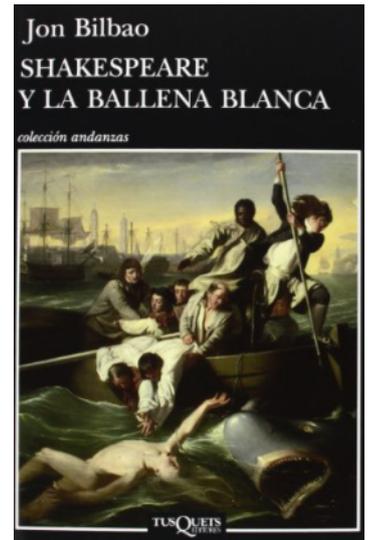
Shakespeare y la ballena blanca

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...”

Jordi Ballart



Spanish sample available

A book to discover the sensations and motivations of the author and of all the people who swim in winter

Jordi Ballart holds a degree in Catalan Philology and a PhD in Sociolinguistics from Queen Mary, University of London (2004). His first book, *Línia de flotació* (2019), is a personal memoir about his experiences swimming in open water. He co-organised with the Biblioteca del Museu Marítim de Barcelona the maritime literature cycle '*Onades literàries*' (2023) and is the author of the article *Des del mar* (Convit/e, 2024). His latest book, *Vuit graus* (2025), introduces us to the world of winter swimming. He is a member of the Outdoor Swimming Society.

Eight Degrees Vuit graus

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

Details: **March 2025, 216 pages**

Rights sold to:

Spanish (Barlin Libros)

"Eight Degrees is the coldest water temperature I have ever swum in. That's no mean feat, considering that there are people who swim in polar waters at almost zero degrees. As a result of going to the beach for a swim almost every weekend from December to March, my body has been adapting to the winter sea temperatures. Why do I do it? This is the question that this book tries to answer"

Eight Degrees is the story of a relationship, that of the Author and the sea. It is the story of how, from a memory and a desire, a personal quest begins to find a way to connect with water, salt, air; with nature, in the end, and how this contact becomes a fundamental pillar of life.

Juan Gómez Bárcena

April or Never Abril o nunca

First Publisher:

Seix Barral (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **March 2026, 386 pages**

Option Publishers:

Germany (Secession Verlag)

The Netherlands (Wereldbibliotheek)

Teresa celebrates her birthday twice every year. Once with her mother in Madrid, once with her father in Benidorm. It is one of the quiet arrangements that follow a divorce: two cities, two lives, two versions of the same date. April comes twice, but never in the same way.

This year, during her second birthday, her father Daniel has planned a surprise. He will take Teresa snorkeling in a secluded Mediterranean cove, a place tied to his own childhood, a place meant to strengthen their bond. On that day — April 13th, at La Cala de los Amarillos — something happens that will change everything.

A literary exploration of fatherhood, masculinity and emotional inheritance.

A meditation on guilt, repetition and the human desire to rewrite the past.

At its heart, April or Never is a tender and incisive portrait of fatherhood after divorce, of love lived at a distance, and of the invisible weight parents pass on to their children. With great emotional precision, the novel examines how the past inhabits the present, and how living often means learning to endure what cannot be undone.



Juan Gómez Bárcena (Santander, 1984) holds degrees in Literary Theory and Comparative Literature, History and Philosophy. With his first book of short stories, *Los que duermen* (2012), he won the Tormenta Prize for best new author. He then published *El cielo de Lima* (2014, 2023), a novel for which he won the Ojo Crítico de Narrativa Prize and the Ciudad de Alcalá de Narrativa Prize, and which has been translated into English, French, Italian, German, Portuguese, Dutch and Greek. His next novel, *Kanada* (2017), won the City of Santander Prize and the Cálamo Otra Mirada Prize, and was first runner-up for the Tigre Juan International Prize. He then published *Ni siquiera los muertos* (2020), finalist for the prize for the best book of the year awarded by the Gremio de Libreros de Madrid. The monumental *Lo demás es aire* (2023), winner of the Ciutat de Barcelona Prize for Literature and the Vanity Fair Prize for best novel, established him as one of the most important authors in Spanish literature. His latest book is *Mapa de soledades* (2024), a literary essay in which he traces an X-ray of solitude in different places and times, mixing history, literature and memory. He currently lives in Madrid, where he teaches literary workshops.

Juan Gómez Bárcena



Rights sold to:

Italy (Mondadori)

Germany (Seccession Verlag)

Movie Rights optioned

Map of Solitudes Mapa de soledades

First Publisher:

Seix Barral (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **October 2024. 400 pages**

2nd edition

One can be alone for many reasons. There are forced loners and loners by choice; there are passing and eternal solitudes; solitudes that lead to madness and others that lead to pleasure and creation. One can be alone on an island, like Captain Pedro Serrano, who inspired the figure of Robinson Crusoe after a shipwreck in 1526, and equally alone is the housewife who irons while she waits, the pop star who escapes in her hotel room and the so-called '52 Hertz whale', who has been singing for thirty-five years on a frequency that no other whale can hear.

Drawing on an extensive bibliography and the lives of great loners in history and literature, *Mapa de soledades* is a fascinating narrative essay that attempts to understand this feeling not only in today's society, but in different times and places, from the monks of Santa María de Huerta, in Soria, to the Japanese hikikomori, from Marie Antoinette to Miley Cyrus, from the Nazi Albert Speer to the writer Emily Dickinson.

Without relinquishing the narrative resources of the novel and once again displaying an absolute mastery of language, Juan Gómez Bárcena explores in these pages a universal theme of unquestionable relevance: solitude, which does not distinguish between borders, genders or social classes, and which is considered the great epidemic of the 21st century.

Juan Gómez Bárcena

The Rest is Air Lo demás es aire

First Publisher:

Seix Barral (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **May 2022, 544 pages. 5th edition!**

Rights sold to:

The Netherlands (Wereldbibliotheek)

Germany (Seccession Verlag)

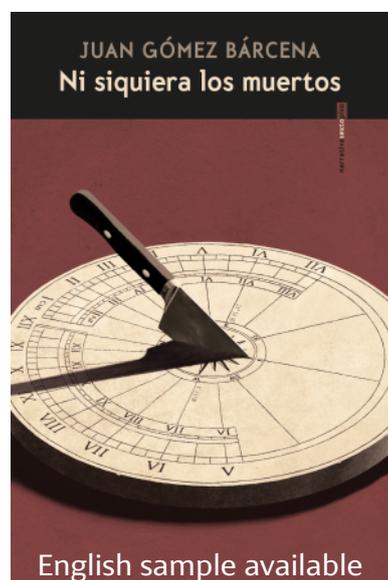
Lithuanian (Alma Littera)

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 (Seccession Verlag)

World English (Open Letter)

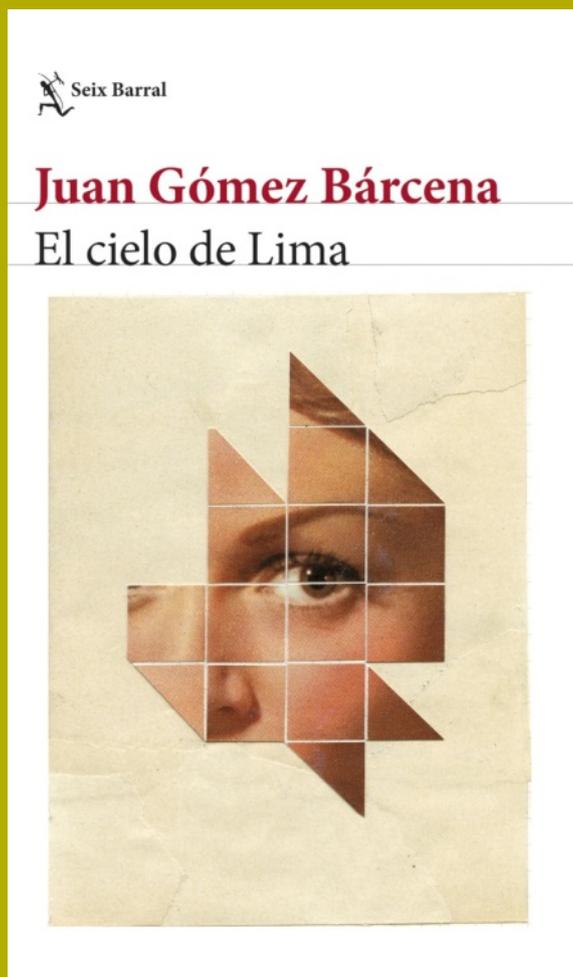
France (MF Éditeur) Brazil (DBA Editora)

TV/Film Rights optioned

Among the most notable titles of 2023 for The New York Times!

English sample available

Juan Gómez Bárcena



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)

Arabic (Dar Talad)

"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.

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**

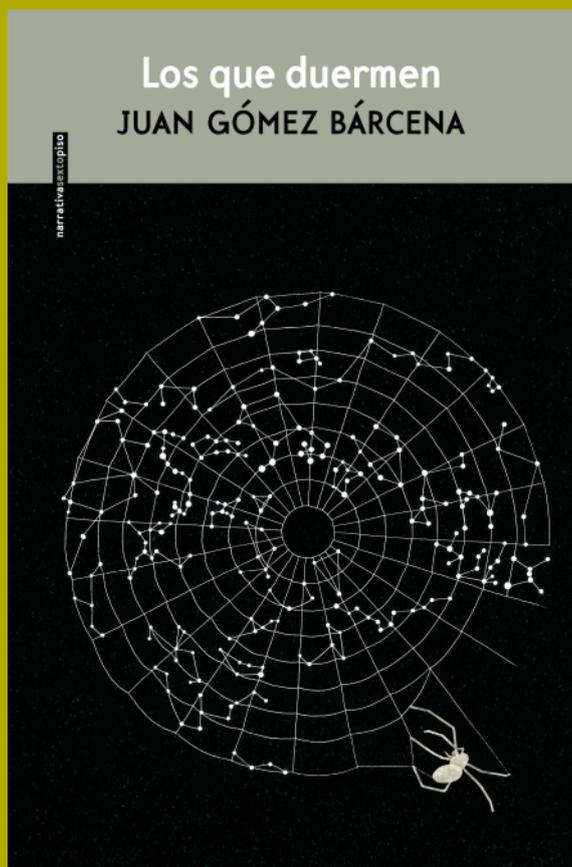
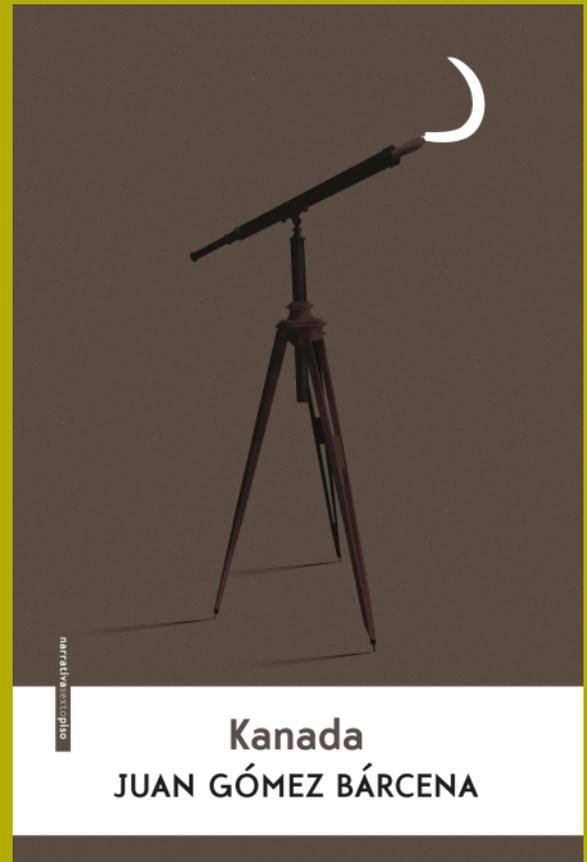
Rights sold to:

Germany (Secession Verlag)

The Netherlands (Wereldbibliotheek)

Movie rights optioned by Oria Films (Spain)

English sample available



Those Who Sleep

Los que duermen

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

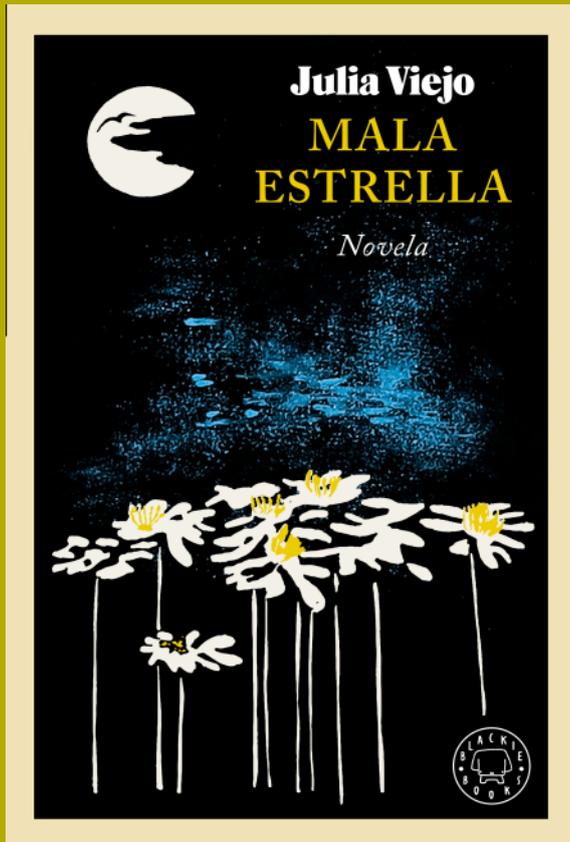
New Edition by: **Sexto Piso (Spain & Latin America)**

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 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.

Dark Star Mala estrella

First Publisher:
Blackie Books (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **January 2024, 230 pages**

Vera is thirteen years old and surrounded by silences. Her father's silence, so violent, while he awaits the trial that could end up breaking up the family. That of her mother, so sudden, locked up in a rest home where those who have become a burden go.

That of all the adults around her, so unfair. Vera is totally inadequate and clueless about life.

Summer gurgles and Vera takes refuge in its murmur.

In the lullaby of the river, in the bustle of the grape harvest, in the restlessness of the first unmuted kisses.

While she scribbles "I don't give a shit" on the papers and searches for someone to explain to her what will happen after those eternal months, she spends those days hanging out with a strange man dressed as a nun who rides a bicycle, drinks from puddles and throws herself from heights.

But Vera just wants to scream.

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**

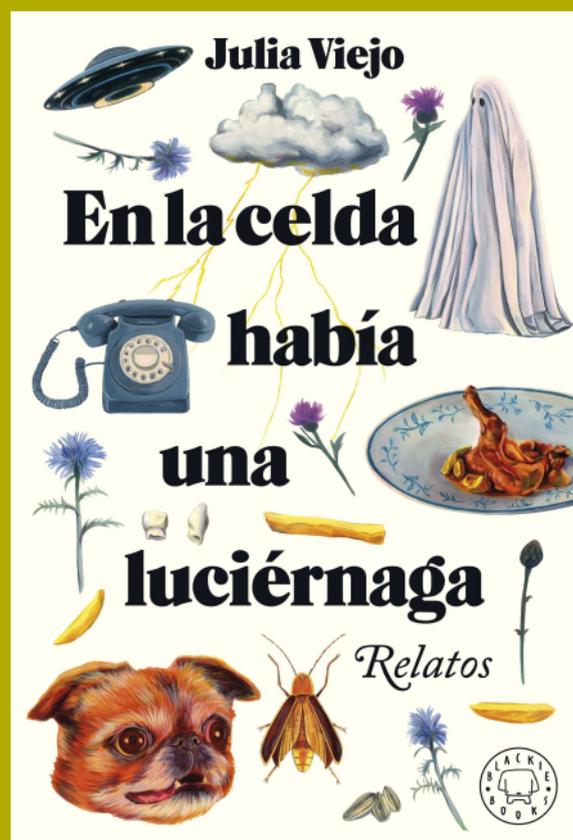
2nd edition!

Rights sold to:

Arabic (Dar Hawaf)

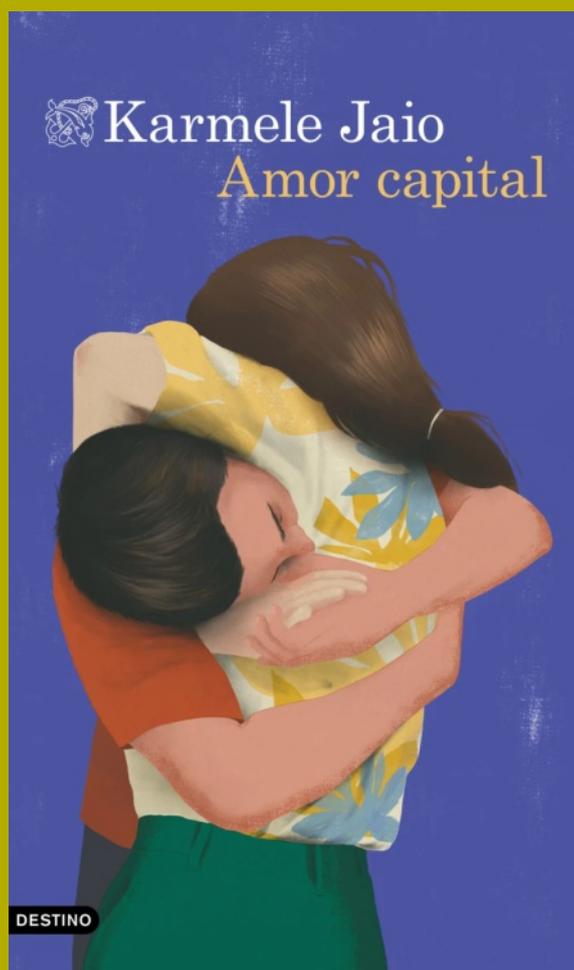
A family that must fight against a plague of weasels.
A magical forest that doesn't want anyone to visit it.
A girl locked up all night in a supermarket.
A crime at work because of a can of Coca-Cola.
A ghost condemned to be eternally young, bored drinking milkshakes and dreading visitors to his house.
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.



English and Italian samples available

Karmele Jaio



Karmele Jaio's new novel tackles the very different ways in which we have been taught to love men and women

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.

Capital Love Amor capital

First Publisher: **Elkar (Basque)**

Details: **December 2023**

Rights Sold to:

Spanish (Destino, February 2024, 272 pages)

UK (3Times Rebel)

What really lies beneath our way of loving?

Martin has just died. At the funeral, Olga, his lover until a year before, speaks to him from a church pew. During the ceremony she recalls how their relationship became obsessive for her and how it collapsed the day Martin decided not to see her anymore. Olga begins to recognise her emotional dependence on him as she tries to discover the reasons for his death.

While she tries to overcome the shocking event, Laia, one of her students, is writing her doctoral thesis: an analysis of the injustice of love and the way women have been taught to make it the centre of their lives.

Alternating the experiences lived by the characters with the different representations of love in the artistic and literary works on which Laia's thesis is based, Karmele Jaio has composed an ambitious novel about the edges of our sentimental education and how it determines the way we deal with our relationships.

A novel that reads voraciously, but which leaves a deep impression and makes us question our way of loving.

Karmele Jaio

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

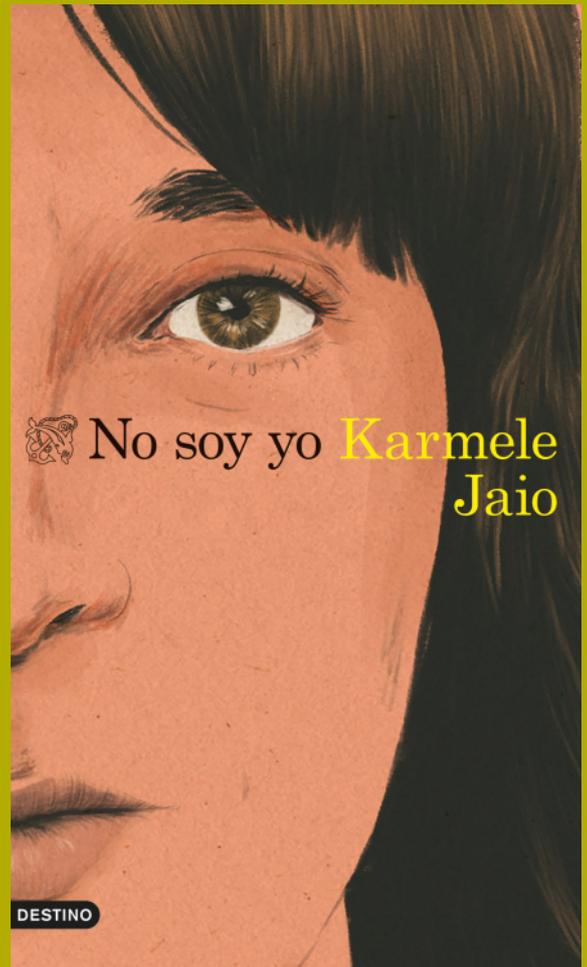
First Publisher: **Destino (World Spanish)**

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*



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

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 ed.)

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.

Amaren eskuak 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.

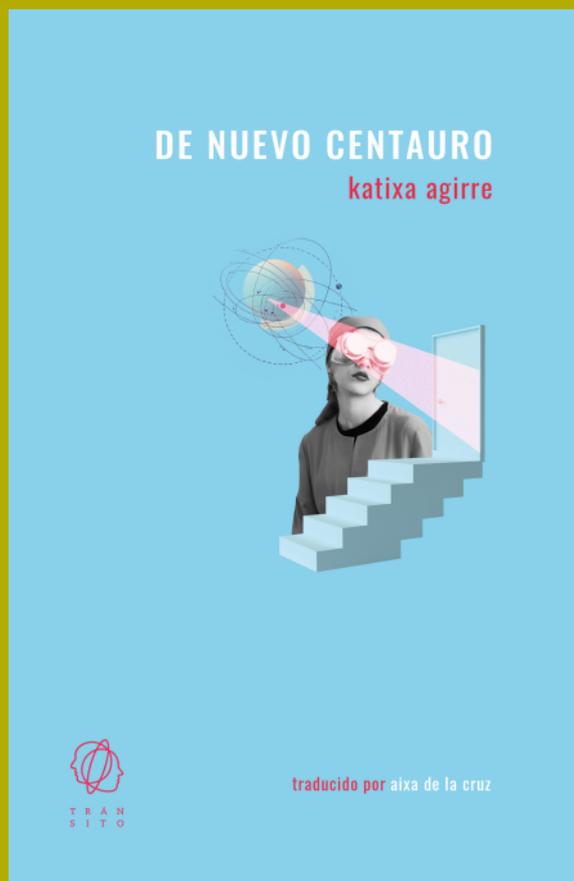


Available in Spanish and English

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 Iparragirre.

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*.

Centauro 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

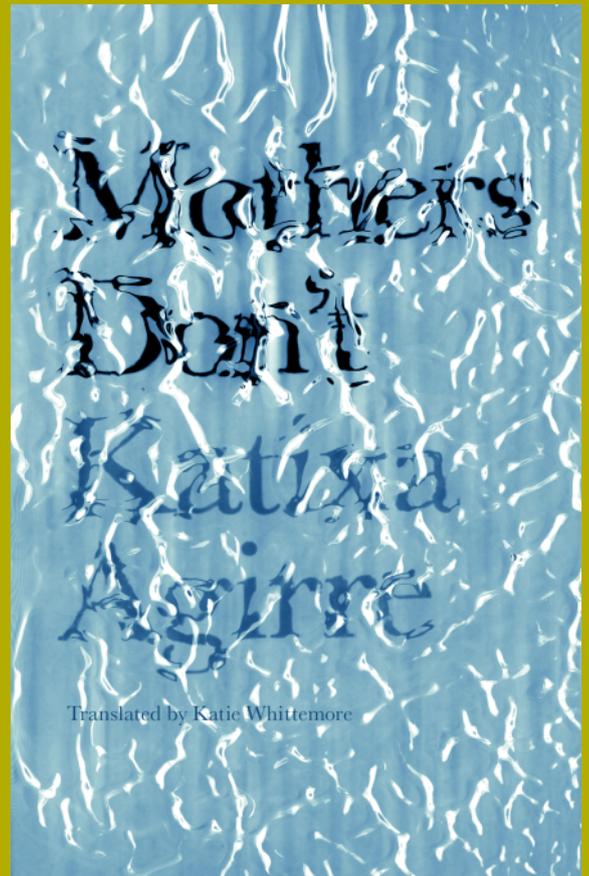
Mothers Don't Las madres no Amek ez dute

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)
The Netherlands (Zirimiri Press)
World English (Open Letter)
Brazil (Primavera Editorial)
Amharic, Ethiopia (Hohe Publisher)
Slovenia (Malinc) **Serbia (Imprimatur)**
France (Globe Éditions) **Italy (Mendel Edizioni)**
Arabic (Al Arabi)

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

KATIXA AGIRRE
LOS TURISTAS
DESGANADOS



TRADUCCIÓN A CARGO DE LA AUTORA
NARRATIVA CONTEMPORÁNEA
EDITORIAL PRE-TEXTOS

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)

Luisa Carnés



A great feminist and a forgotten author of 20th century Spain.

A brilliant portrait of working women at the turn of the century told in the first person.

Tea Rooms

First Publisher: **Hoja de Lata (Spain & Latin America)**

Details: **2016. 256 pages**

16th edition, 30.000 copies sold!

Original edition: 1934

Rights sold to:

World English (Penguin Classics)

Portugal (Antígona)

Italy (Alegre)

France (La Contre Allée)

Germany (Dumont)

Turkey (Everest)

Brazil (Fósforo)

TV/Film Rights sold

Luisa Carnés (Madrid, 1905-Mexico D.F., 1964) was a Spanish novelist and journalist, an (invisible) author of the Generation of 1927. She was born into a working-class family in Madrid's Las Letras district.

From her new job as a waitress in a tea room came *Tea Rooms. Working Women* (1934), which was warmly received by critics, who praised its innovative character and narrative force.

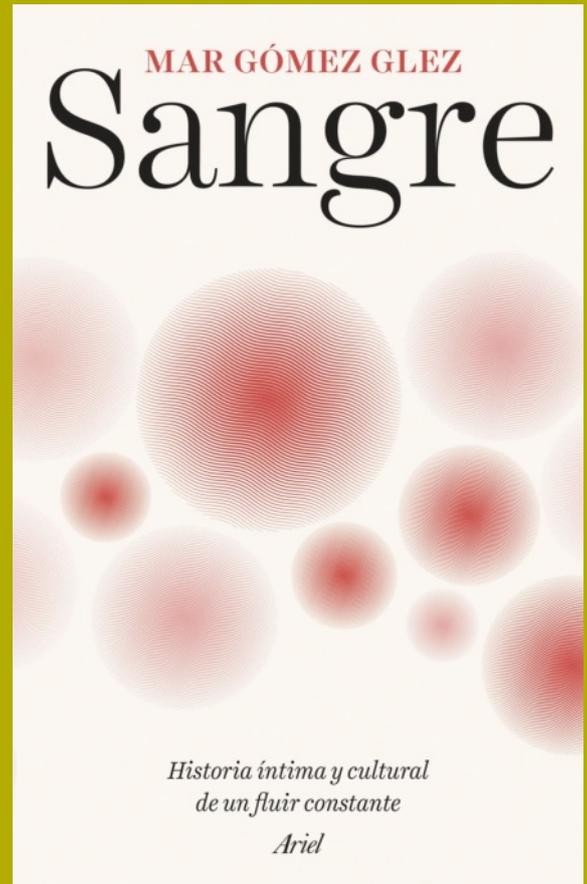
After the defeat of the Republican side, she went into exile in Mexico, where she died prematurely in the most complete oblivion in the history of Spanish literature. Luisa Carnés went into exile with nothing but a leather wallet containing her most precious possession, her stories. Eighty years later, they will finally see the light of day in the collection called *Thirteen Stories* (1931-1963).

It is the thirties in Madrid and the workers of a distinguished tearoom near Puerta del Sol are adjusting their uniforms to start a new and tiring working day. Antonia is the oldest of them all, although no one has ever recognised her competence.

Little Marta's misery has made her determined and daring. Paca, in her thirties and a pious woman, spends her leisure hours in a convent near her house, and Laurita, the owner's goddaughter, thinks of herself as a 'modern girl'. The three-pesetas wage is not enough to live on for any of them, but they all keep quiet.... They are used to keeping quiet: in front of their boss, in front of their husbands, in front of their fathers. To silence their desires with the opium of religion. Their life is translated into this reflection by Matilde: 'Ten hours of work, tiredness, three pesetas'.

A rediscovered author of the Generation of '27, Luisa Carnés wrote this portentous social novel, breaking the narrative patterns of the time. A fundamental voice to bring us closer to the reality of Spanish women at the beginning of the 20th century.

Mar Gómez Glez



BLOOD. An intimate and cultural history La sangre. Una historia íntima y cultural de un fluir constante

Published by:
Ariel (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **September 2025, 252 pages**

Dracula repeats in Bram Stoker's novel that «Blood is life!». In it - and its history - are inscribed the lights and shadows of humanity. This book is an exciting journey through the liquid that defines us. Its elusive and unfathomable nature connects us, terrifies us and saves us.

Under the sharp and sensitive gaze of Mar Gómez Glez, we enter a fascinating expedition through centuries of science, art, religion, politics and culture, revealing how vital lymph embodies symbols of purity, sacrifice, power, identity and redemption.

Written with rigor, its own voice and an uncommon literary ambition, *Sangre* transforms a fluid into an epic narrative.

A bold and revealing essay that turns blood into a powerful narrator of history, culture, medicine and human identity

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



"That Margarita Leoz has reached such maturity lies in the human sobriety of what she narrates, in how all too human and necessary everything we read in her pages sounds [...]. A novelist's finely tuned and excellent ear"

Ernesto Ayala-Dip, Babelia, El País

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.

"One is left touched, as if after a dream"
Laura Barrachina, RNE

"Leoz's writing is deceptively simple. She resorts neither to the internal monologue, so fashionable of late, nor to a superficial poetics. Leoz works her texts to the point of exhaustion: she is a crafter"

Natàlia Cerezo, El Periódico

What Remains

Lo que permanece

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

Details: **March 2025**

On the morning of the 7th of July, as Pamplona prepares for its most festive day, the narrator of this novel learns that her father has died suddenly. Outside, there is a hustle and bustle and she accompanies her mother to the family home: she has to call the funeral parlour, choose the clothes, organise the burial service. At the end of the day, exhausted, emptied, the protagonist begins to recall the figure of her father and her relationship with him. It is the end of one era and the beginning of another marked by mourning, but also by the impetus of life that, despite everything, makes its way.

Lo que permanece is an extraordinary novel about stories in small letters, about the ordinary lives of a generation of parents who grew up in the post-war period, who built the middle class through hard work and mortgaged themselves to put their children through university.

A story about the vulnerability of the ties that bind us together and about what remains after loss.

After winning over readers with the excellent collection of short stories Flores fuera de estación and confirming herself as a writer with a world of her own with her novel Punta Albatros, Margarita Leoz surprises us with an intimate testimony turned into universal literature, where she once again manages 'to make the everyday reveal itself to be fascinating' José Ovejero, La Marea).

Margarita Leoz

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

Off Season Flowers

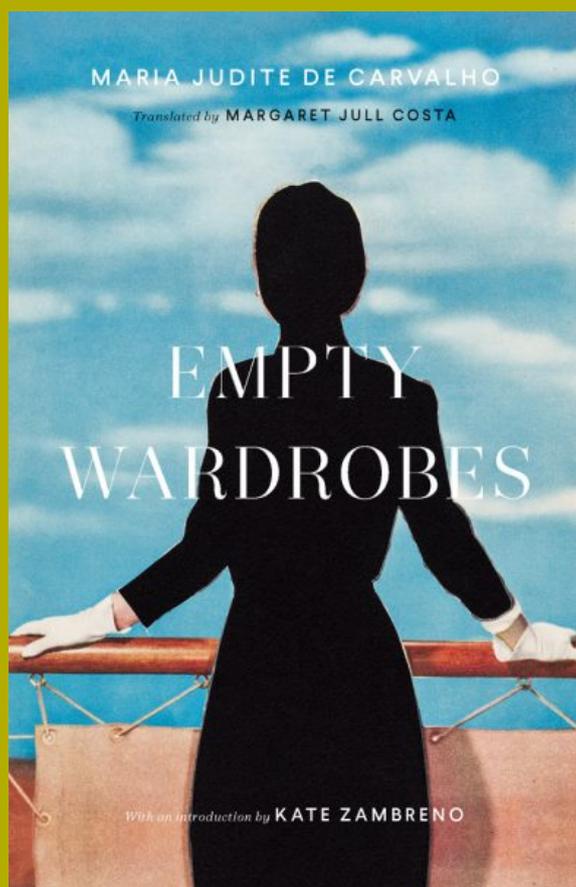
Flores fuera de estación

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

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 (Portugal)**

Details: **July 2018, 109 pages**

Rights sold to:

World English (Two Lines Press)

The Netherlands (De Bezige Bij)

Turkey (Türkiye İş Bankası Kültür Yayinlari)

Italy (Sellerio)

Greece (Ikaros)

Catalan (Angle)

Sweden (Norstedts)

Spain (Errata Naturae)

Germany (Fischer Verlag)

France (Cambourakis)

Japan (Shueisha)

Lithuania (Aukso Zuvys)

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

Left Behind in Lisbon

by **Joyce Carol Oates**
at **The New York Review**
on February 10, 2022 issue

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

The New York Review of Books



“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”

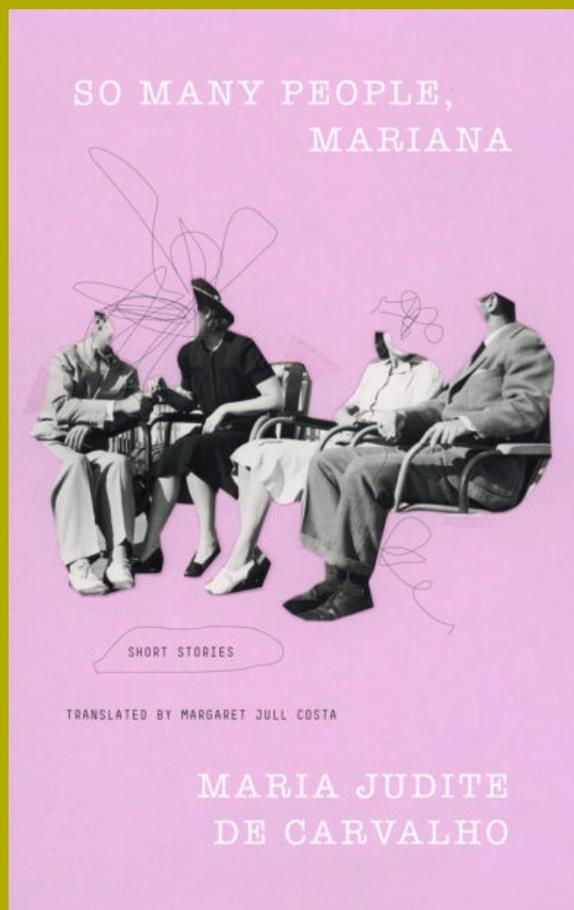
sacraments, even confession and communion; we never see her attending mass; if she is concerned with the condition of her soul, we are not made aware of it; her “religion” is the observation of unvarying routine performed with “eyes...as dull as an empty house or unnaturally bright when she became excited.”

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 (Portugal)

Complete Works in Six Volumes

Details: **July 2018, 109 pages**

Rights sold to:

World English (Two Lines Press)

Italy (Sellerio)

France (Cambourakis)

Spain (Errata Naturae)

Czech (Volvox)

Japan (Shueisha)

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

*Other works: Flores ao telefone; Os idólatras;
Tempo de mercês; Além do quadro; Seta despedida*

Rights sold to:

World English (Two Lines Press)

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)

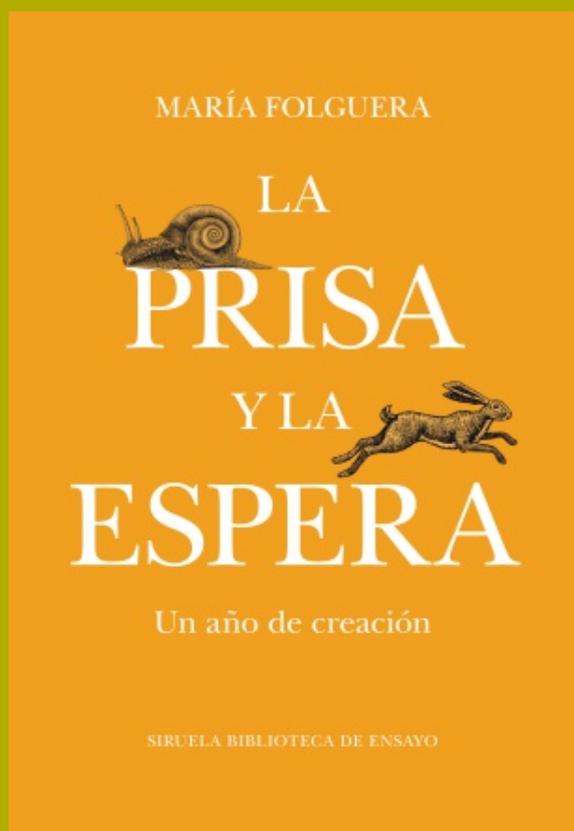
// I couldn't put down this collection of spiky, more than slightly macabre, and supremely entertaining short stories about women trying to assert their autonomy in a society that is intent on devaluing them. Thankful we're finally getting English translations of her work, because it's more relevant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

"They spoke to us about inspiration, about energy in motion, but not about what is so often inevitable: being patient and allowing the living ferment of a project to rest. Folguera weaves a most beautiful hammock in which to lie down and reflect on waiting."
Sabina Urraca

María Folguera (Madrid, 1984) worked for fourteen years at Madrid's Teatro Circo Price, six of them as its artistic director. Since January 2024 she has devoted herself mainly to writing. She is the author of four novels, and among her latest theater projects are adaptations of Carmen Martín Gaité, Lope de Vega, and Cervantes.

"María Folguera always manages to combine wisdom and irreverence in a surprising way" Christina Rosenvinge

Haste and Waiting A Year of Creation

La prisa y la espera
Un año de creación

First Publisher: **Siruela (Spain and Latin America)**

Details: **April 2026. 148 pages**

A writer has just left her office job to devote herself entirely to literature. Faced with a new stretch of time and growing impatient with the creative process, she begins to pull at the thread of memory and curiosity to reflect on how every work of art is intimately linked to Kairós, the Greek god of opportunity.

Drawing on materials as diverse as *Las hilanderas* by Diego Velázquez and *Misery* by Stephen King, as well as *Peter Pan*, *One Thousand and One Nights*, and the work of Carmen Martín Gaité, this essay offers an elegant yet light-hearted critical reflection on how the time of artistic creation is neither linear nor orderly, nor does it belong to a measurable logic. In this age of immediacy and productivity—when we might not even write and instead leave everything in the hands of a machine—creative inspiration remains volatile, capricious, and indifferent to our pleas.

"The patience of reading finds its reward in this book: María Folguera allows us access to the pulse that runs through every page—the one that plays out between creation and its conditions, between the body of the writer and time... or rather the whims of the artistic calendar, of which the writer knows herself to be an almost happy captive."

Azahara Alonso

María Folguera

Sister. (Pleasure) Hermana. (Placer)

First Publisher:

Alianza Editorial
(Spain and Latin America)

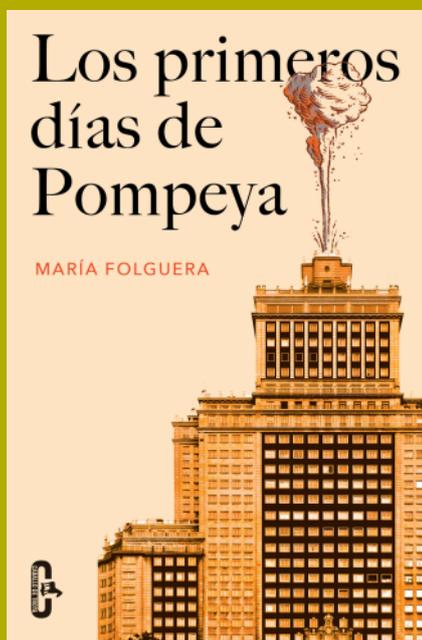
Details: **May 2021, 192 pages**

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.



English sample 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.



The First Days of Pompeii Los primeros días de Pompeya

First Publisher:

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

Details: **March 2016, 254 pages**

Marta Pérez-Carbonell



Freedom is therapeutic; it means having someone who sees your blood-stained palms, recognizes the hurt in you, and chooses to dance by your side

Marta Pérez-Carbonell (1982) is an Associate Professor at Colgate University (New York), where she teaches contemporary Spanish literature. She has a PhD in Hispanic Studies from Royal Holloway, University of London. *Nada más ilusorio* is her first novel.

I Will Still Be Alive Tomorrow

Mañana seguiré viva

First Publisher:

**Lumen (PRH. Spain & Latin America)
(Spain & Latin America)**

Details: **January 2026, 224 pages**
2nd edition!

Rights sold to:

Denmark (Jensen & Dalgaard)

Linda Rams lives in Capri, tucked away from the public eye. Gone are the days of spotlights and flashbulbs that once illuminated this iconic figure of the Golden Age of cinema. On this side of fame, she sits on the balcony of her hotel suite, chatting softly with Lorenzo Belmonte, the journalist-turned-confidant who dedicated his career to unraveling the anecdotes of Linda's life and, in the process, forged with her an unbreakable bond. In the warm evening air, the actress recalls the wounds that marked her early years, the classic films that cemented her stardom, the lost loves of times past, the relationship with her daughter Silvia, and the cracks that fame kept hidden for far too long.

Behind the splendor of her public persona, Linda Rams's story is laced with tightly held secrets and dangerous run-ins that have come to define both who she is and who others believed her to be.

In entrancing, almost hypnotic prose, *I Will Still Be Alive Tomorrow* reflects with remarkable sensibility on the stories we tell ourselves—stories about the complexity of being human; about motherhood and its dark underbelly, about guilt, about the gaze of the other, and about chosen families.

Marta Pérez-Carbonell

Nothing Less Real

Nada más ilusorio

First Publisher:

Lumen (PRH. Spain & Latin America)
(Spain & Latin America)

Details: **June 2024, 232 pages**

Rights sold to:

Italy (Feltrinelli-Gramma)

USA (Riverhead)

Germany (Berlin Verlag)

Romania (Editura Trei)

The Netherlands (Meulenhoff Boekerij)

Denmark (Jensen & Dalgaard)

Turkey (Korridor)

Brazil (Amarcord-Record)

UK (Sceptre)

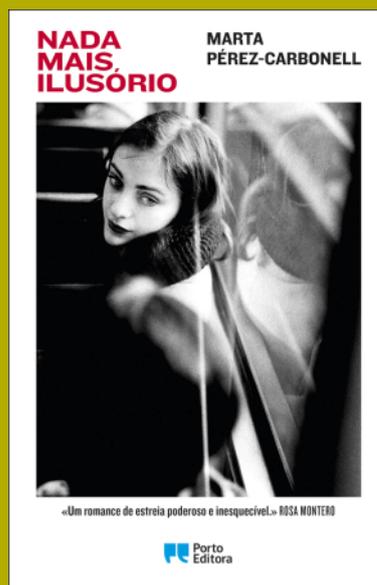
France (Les Escales)

Portugal (Porto Editora)

Hungary (Magveto Kiadó)

On a train from London to Edinburgh, a woman overhears a conversation between Terry and Bou, two American passengers who are talking about the novel that one of them published.

The story of our protagonist becomes entangled with that of her fellow passengers and that of Rocco, the book whose fiction unexpectedly changed all their lives. Over the course of a long night, the characters share their stories as the reader navigates through the pages of Rocco's novel. Set among the streets of New York's Soho, a post-pandemic Madrid and the aridity of the island of Socotra, the characters search for answers to understand the story of their lives and their respective losses.



A contemporary novel about the role of literature, sleep and wakefulness, the fine boundary between fiction and reality, and the stories we tell ourselves

"This absorbing, brilliant novel is going to have a powerful impact for readers everywhere"
Laura Perciasepe, Riverhead, US

"There is nothing more exciting than discovering a new voice that will be an important addition to the literary world in the years to come"
Sarah Rigaud, Les Escales, France

Marta Jiménez Serrano



2023 Madrid
Bookseller Prize
Premio Gremio
de los Libreros

"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 Oldladyvoice

"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**

9th edition!

Rights sold to:

Italy (La Nuova Frontiera)

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.**

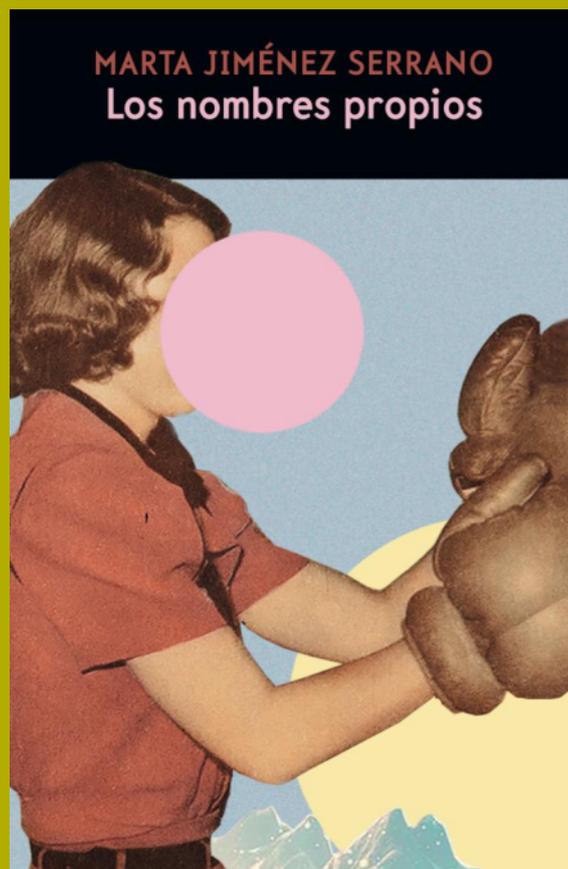
15th edition! More than 45.000 copies sold!

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."

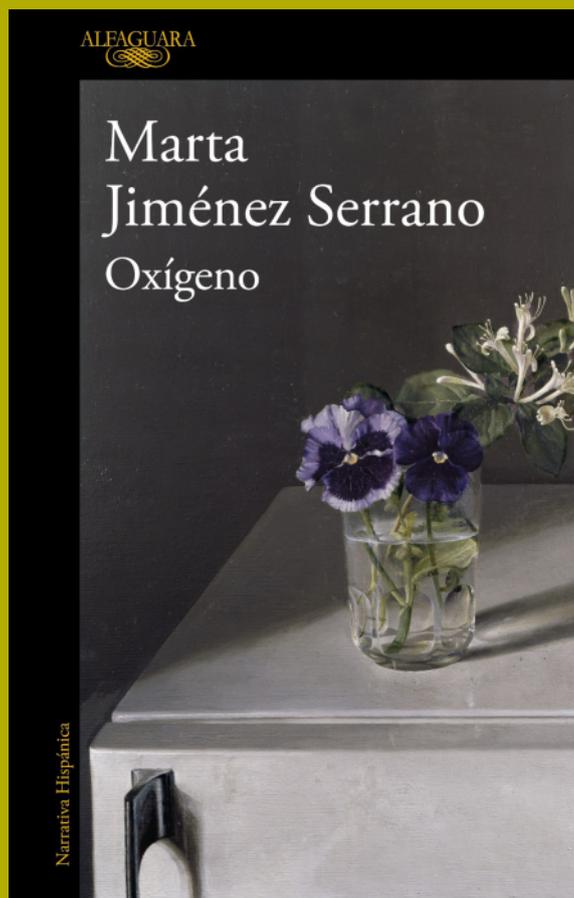
Elvira Lindo

Marta Jiménez Serrano (Madrid, 1990) has a degree in Hispanic Philology and a master's degree in Literary Studies and Modern Literature.

She published her first novel *Los nombres propios* in 2021. Her book of short stories *No todo el mundo* (2023) was a finalist for the Madrid Bookshops Prize and the Vanity Fair Open Bank Literature Prize.

Her narrative work has been translated into Italian. She currently lives in Madrid, where she teaches creative writing.

Marta Jiménez Serrano



English sample available

Masterfully combining sensitivity, a sense of humour and lucidity, the author looks death squarely in the face to celebrate the daily wonder of still being here

Oxygen Oxígeno

First Publisher:

Alfaguara / Penguin RH (Spain and Latin America)

Details: **January 2026, 152 pages**

Four Editions in less than a month!

More than 40.300 copies in bookstores!

Rights sold to:

Portugal (Alfaguara - Penguin RH)

November 2020, a few months before publishing her first novel, the author of this book was on the verge of death.

On a Saturday like any other, at home, without knowing it, she and her partner were dying. The boiler had a leak and carbon monoxide was numbing them until Marta struggled to get up to go to the bathroom. There, she collapsed and hit her head. It took her five years to recount this experience in a story that combines narrative tension, anxiety and hope.

Oxygen is 'the book I never wanted to write', the story of the minutes in which their lives slipped away, the months that followed the accident and the years that preceded it all, when they fell in love and began to build a life without thinking that it could end at any moment.

// I read Marta's book a week ago and I've just read it again. It's like one of those texts—almost mythical, at least for my generation—that great authors used to publish in the most influential magazines. That's what we aspired to. It has been (and I understand that everyone has already had this thought, including Marta herself in the acknowledgements) like reading something from the same literary homeland as Joan Didion, Zadie Smith, or David Foster Wallace. It is an exciting, meticulous, overwhelming book, and it is wonderfully written. Congratulations to both of you. I hope it has a wonderful and very long life.

'Oxygen' confirms that Marta belongs to the same literary homeland as Zadie Smith, Nora Ephron and Joan Didion. An exciting, precise, literary text, full of class rage, which turns the blink between life and death into a universe of possibilities, into life itself refusing to give in."

Alana S. Portero, author of Bad Habit

"With a marvelous choral technique, Nerea Pallares shows us that magic lies hidden in the hands that weave, in the hands that care. She tells the intimate story of women who transform inherited silences into the only cry capable of unpicking abandonment."

Lucía Solla Sobral

2025
García Barros
Award

Spider Stitch Punto de araña

An exceptional debut novel that weaves together social realism, collective memory, and mythology to recount a female rebellion on the Costa da Morte

Summoned by the spirit of the sea and the wind that beats against every doorway, Ari arrives in Camariñas, a labyrinthine village that feels strangely familiar. She has come to oversee the lace museum and work as a tour guide, unaware that the women of the town have made a decision that is about to change everything.

Weary of the selfishness of absent men—owners of the money and of every decision—and tired of carrying everyone's voice without ever having one of their own, the lace-makers or palilleiras—who are also net-menders, shellfish gatherers, and cannery workers—choose to end this situation in a drastic and dangerous way: by calling upon the spiders.

Three deities endowed with ancient power and wisdom.

Nerea Pallares's dazzling debut novel is a seafaring, choral tale, flecked with the foam of waves breaking against the rocks and woven from the voices of three generations of women who rise up against injustice. It is an ode to those who weave the invisible nets that sustain us; to the hands that silently interlace the world; and to the hands of friends, a net of nets.

"I loved the fabric of the novel, the language, the mythical atmosphere, the narration, everything. I felt the fury of the women, the power of the sea, the weight of the punishment."

Juliette Ponce – Éditions Dalva, France

Nerea Pallares



English sample available

First Publisher: **Editorial Galaxia (Galician)**

Details: **June 2025, 154 pages (Galician)**
February 2026 (Spanish & Catalan)

Rights sold to:

Spain & Latin America (Libros del Asteroide)
Catalan (Periscopi) France (Dalva)
Italy (Mondadori. Pre-empt)
Brazil (Todavía Livros)

Nerea Pallares (Lugo, 1989) holds a degree in Journalism from the University of Santiago and a Master's degree in Comparative Studies in Literature, Art and Thought from Pompeu Fabra University. She is the author of the short story collections *Sidecar* (2015) and *Los ritos mudos* (2021). With the original Galician version of *Punto de araña* (2025) Libros del Asteroide (2026), she won the García Barros Prize in 2025.

Patricia de Blas



English sample available

*What would happen if surrogacy
were approved in Spain?
Would we really be free to decide?*

Patricia de Blas (1988) is a journalist and writer. Her first novel, *Sostika* (Rasmia Ediciones, 2022), was a finalist for the XXXII Premio Torrente Ballester and winner of La Torre de Babel Emerging Talent Award and the IV Certamen de Jóvenes Creadores Aragoneses. *Cara de madre* is her second novel.

A Mother's Face Cara de madre

First Publisher: **Lunweg (Spain and Latin America)**

Details: **March 2025. 222 pages**

Rights sold to: **Arabian (Editions Dhat)**

Julia wants to be a mother, but for years she has prioritized her career in a consulting firm and now, on the verge of forty, she fears it is too late. Antía quit her job when Leo was born and hopes that rejoining the labor market will not be as complicated as it seems. Carolina, who never wanted to have children, has left her job at the CSIC to take the leap into politics and pursue real change.

Cara de madre is a countdown in the lives of these three women until the moment that will unite them forever; a novel that questions the goodness of neoliberalism and explores the reasons that guide us on the road to motherhood, through protagonists who are pushed to make difficult decisions.

With a measured style that approaches reality and its characters with surgical precision, *Cara de madre* works as a kaleidoscopic mirror in which we can all look at ourselves.

Paula Carrasco

A Passing Storm Algo temporal

First Publisher: **Hueders (Chile)**

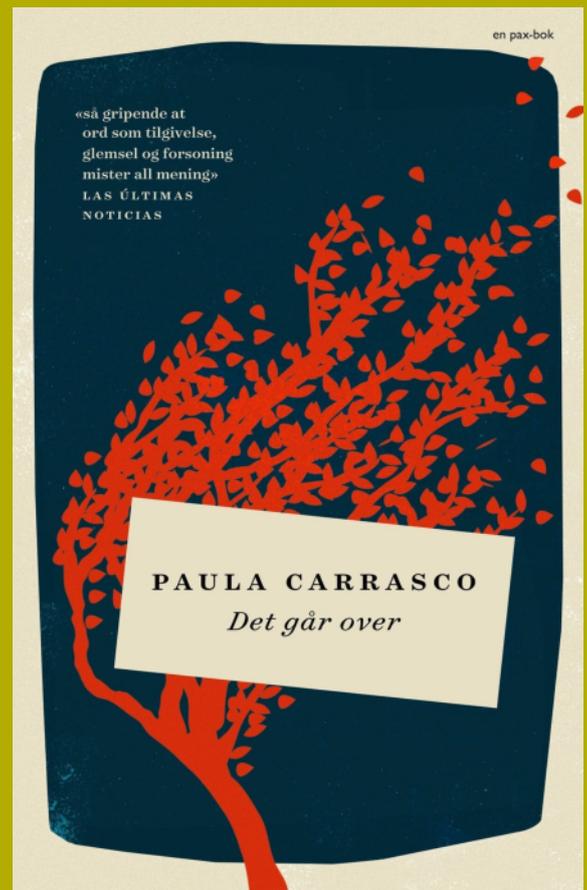
Details: **March 2023. 158 pages**

Rights sold to: **Norway (Pax), Brazil (Pinard)**

A storm that lasts for five days forces the four protagonists of this novel to stay locked up in Ana and Pedro's house in the foothills of the Andes. The roads are cut off, there is almost no telephone signal and even less internet. The rain, which falls with supernatural force, seems like a punishment.

Rebeca, their daughter, quickly develops a complicity and a desire for Vicente, Ana's nephew, who was born in Paris, during his family's exile after the military coup, and who is in Chile for the first time. Separated by silence and secrecy, the family has not been in contact since 1973. The young man's visit restores contact, but at the same time hides a threat that could destabilise Ana and her whole world. She too becomes involved in an ambiguous relationship with Vicente: fear and fascination grow as the hours go by.

A story of fracture and diaspora, *Algo temporal* adheres to the best tradition of the psychological novel, delving into the desires and anxieties of its characters, and does so in a transparent and beautifully painful style. Suddenly, Paula Carrasco suggests, any notion of order, structure or past can collapse due to a storm that threatens to destroy the narrative we have constructed of ourselves. Some call them traumas; others, memories.



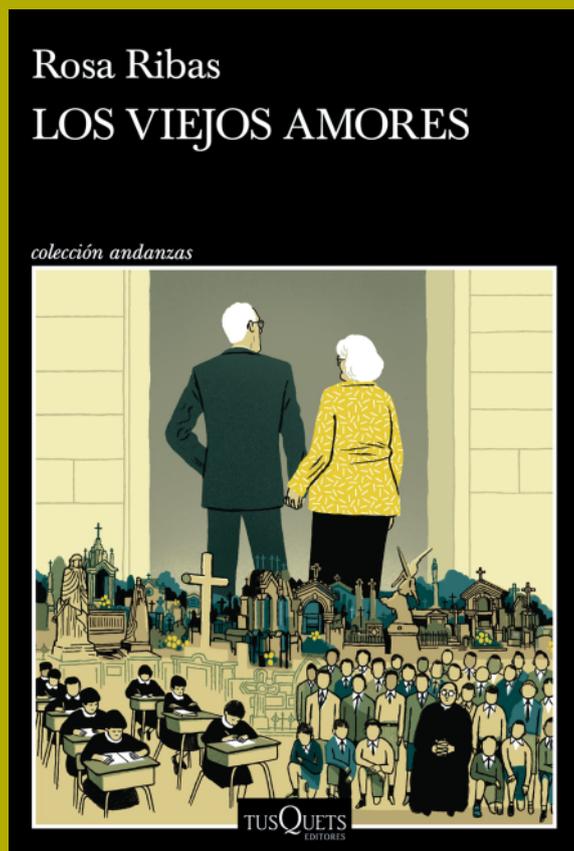
English sample available

«What happens in a storm is like a magical state, there is an atmosphere that takes you to another state of consciousness, you are forced to face what lies beyond. All this makes the four begin to interact and you discover the lights and shadows of each character»
Paula Carrasco

Paula Carrasco (Santiago, 1967) has completed undergraduate and postgraduate studies in psychology and linguistics in the United States and Chile. In 2003, Alfaguara Infantil published her children's novel *Barcos que vuelan*. In 2012, Fondo de Cultura Económica published her first novel for adults, *Volver*. *Primero estaba el mar*, which was received enthusiastically by critics in Chile, Mexico, Argentina and Spain. In 2014, she published *Un golpe de agua* (FCE), also well received in Latin America and Spain.

Rosa Ribas

The Hernández series



"Rosa Ribas's novels are a delight for readers"
Marta Marne, *El Periódico*

Old Loves Los viejos amores

4th
title

First Publisher:

Tusquets Editores (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **March 2025, 328 pages. 2nd edition!**

In all family stories there is an event that determines the fate of its members. In the case of Lola, the matriarch of this detective saga, it is the death of her son Marc, almost five years ago. For Lola, what followed was a dull and grey time. But a few months ago the Hernándezes got back together again, back to investigating together as in the old days. Ayala, the faithful collaborator, has also returned. All of them are now hardened and, why not say it, more experienced under the orders of the peculiar Mateo. On the other hand, a love swindler is at large in the neighbourhood, posing as an old schoolmate of his victims, and it seems that his greed knows no bounds. The Hernándezes face an elusive adversary. A new case for this family in which the loneliness of the elderly, social networks and cybercrime will test the fragile balance of the members of this unique agency

Our Dead Nuestros muertos

First Publisher:

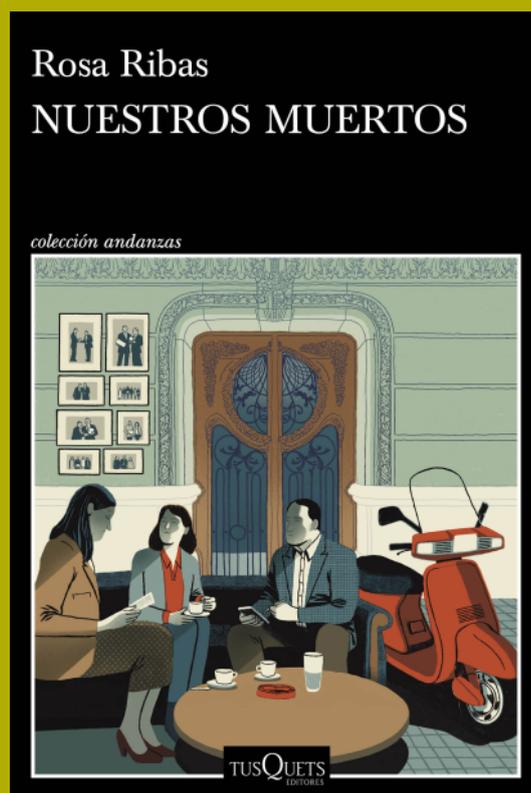
Tusquets Editores (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **May 2022, 328 pages**

Rights sold to:

Italy (Mondadori)

TV/Film rights optioned



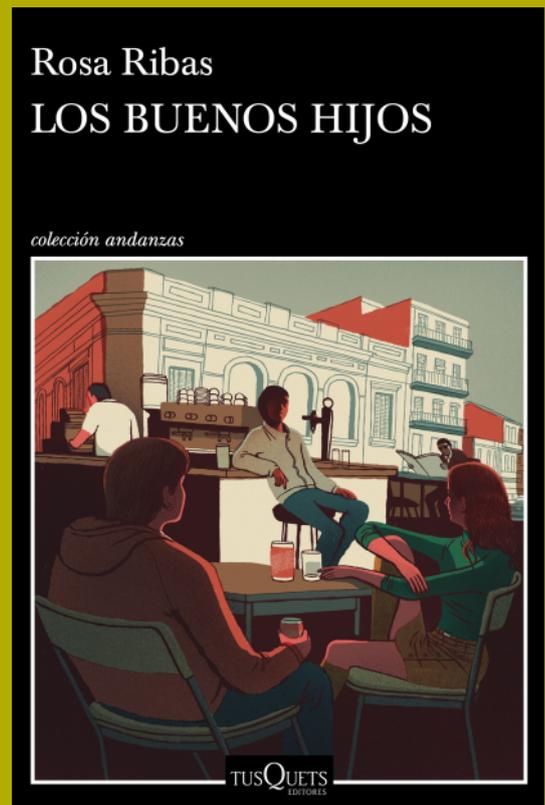
Rosa Ribas

Good Sons Los buenos hijos

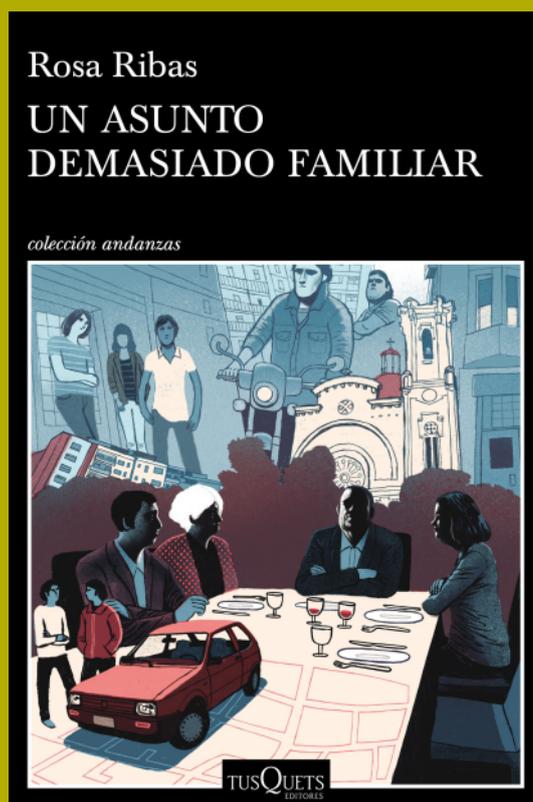
First Publisher:
Tusquets Editores (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **Abril 2021, 368 pages**

Rights sold to:
Catalan (Angle Editorial)
Italy (Mondadori)
TV/Film rights optioned



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



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)
Italy (Mondadori)
TV/Film rights optioned

The Hernández series

Rosa Ribas



Rosa Ribas (Prat del Llobregat, Barcelona, 1963) has a degree in Hispanic Philology from the University of Barcelona, and has been a lecturer in Spanish at the Goethe University and a collaborator at the Cervantes Institute in Frankfurt. She is the author of the novels *El pintor de Flandes*, *La detective miope*, *Miss Fifty*, *Pensión Leonardo*, *La luna en las minas*, of the detective series starring *Cornelia Weber-Tejedor*, and, together with Sabine Hofmann, of the *Trilogía de los años oscuros* (Siruela), translated with great success into several languages. In 2022 she published *Lejos*, an extraordinary novel of love and secrets. With *Un asunto demasiado familiar* (2019) and *Los buenos hijos* (2021) she began the addictive series starring the detectives Hernández, which was a huge success with critics and readers alike, and which has been successfully continued with *Nuestros muertos* (2023).

Creatures from the Abyss

Peces abisales

First Publisher:

Tusquets Editores (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **March 2024, 224 pages. 2nd reprint!**

Childhood in a town on the outskirts of Barcelona, adulthood in a German city: an exciting and ironic tale of initiation in the form of a literary memoir.

The moments that brightened our childhood, or those that made us self-conscious in our adolescence, the discoveries that later became formative, or the horror stories that served as a rite of passage, how to tell them? This exciting book by Rosa Ribas, which one reads with great pleasure and surprise, talks about all this, and also about her family in a city on the outskirts of Barcelona, and about her maturity in a German city. And it reveals to us the wide range of resources, genres and precedents that the narrative tradition offers her to give meaning to her experiences as a left-handed child, a short-sighted adolescent or an adult living in another language. Writing can be an abyssal fish that, with the light of irony, can lead us to the deepest areas. An unforgettable and hilarious tale of initiation, which is a literary lesson in itself.

"What a beautiful book, what a way of telling, among other things, how myopic people see the world and how that influences our writing. It is one of the wisest and most elegant things I have read about the art of writing."

Sergio del Molino

Rosa Ribas

"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)

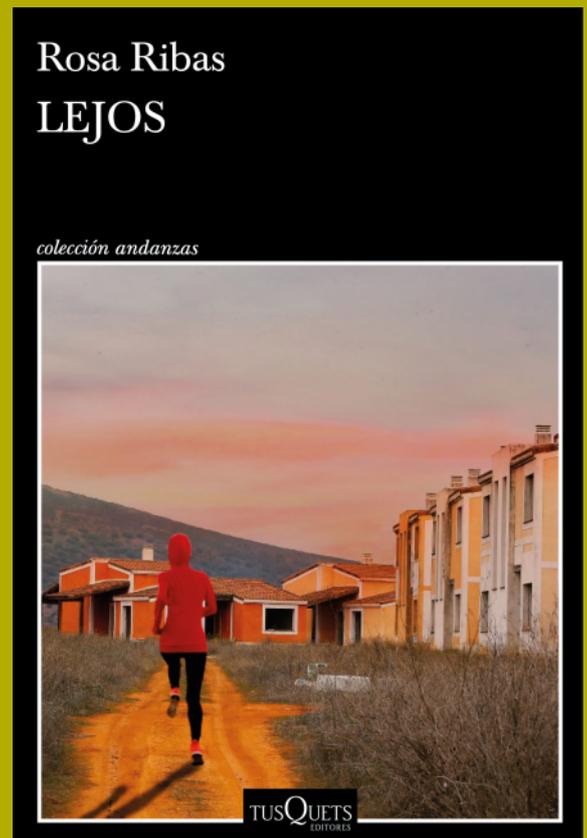
Details: **Abril 2022, 208 pages**

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, which is atmospheric, disturbing, addictive, full of surprises, also gives us an unexpected love story.



"Rosa Ribas is, for many, the best crime writer in Spain"

Pedro M. Espinosa, Diario de Cádiz

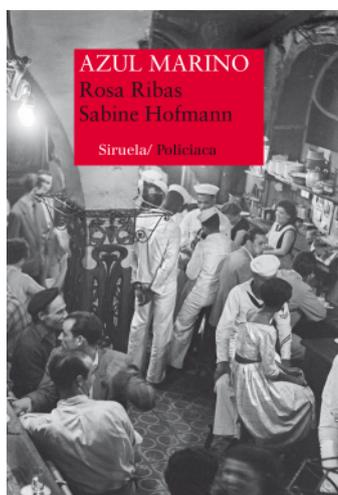
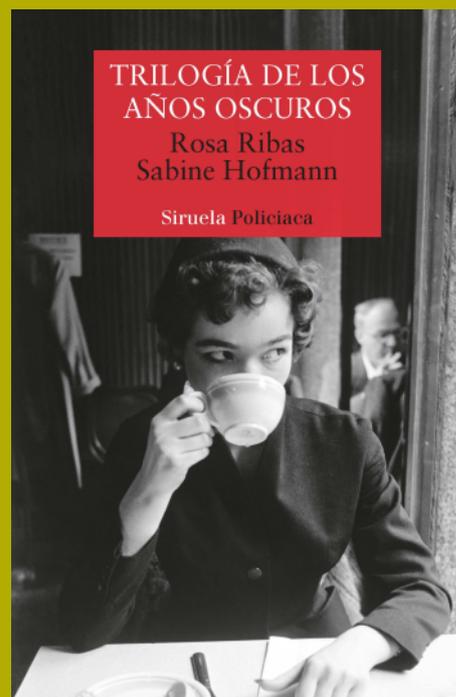
"A novel that turns the detective genre on its head several times, and overflows its limits in favour of literature"

Iñaki Ezkerra, El Correo

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**

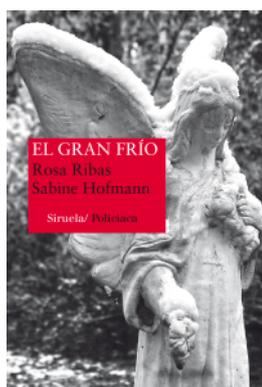
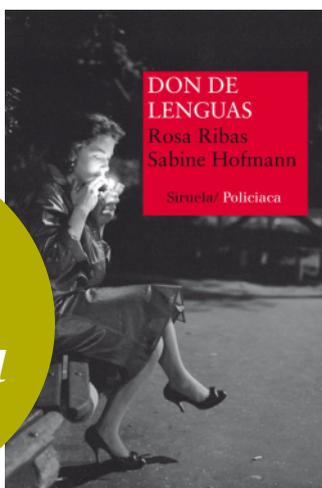
Rights sold to: **Germany (Rowohlt), Poland (Sonia Draga)**

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)**

*Winner
of the
English
Pen Award*



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

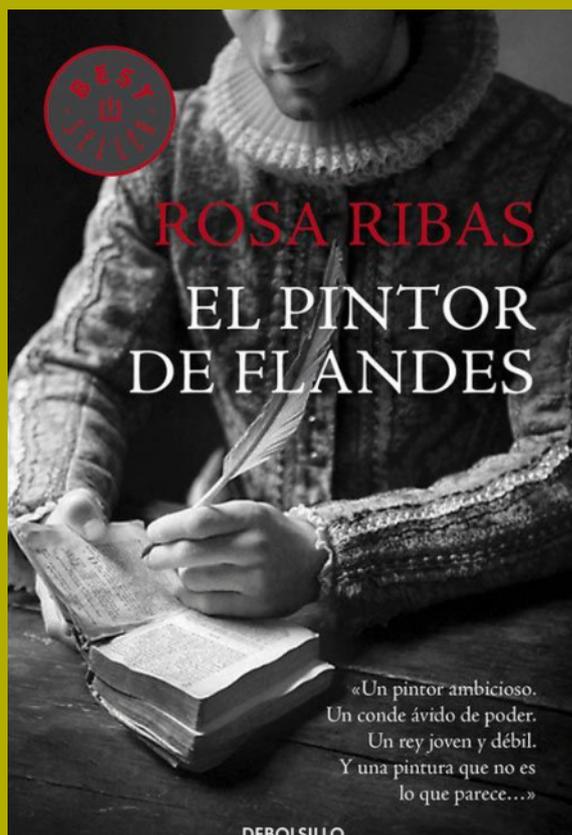
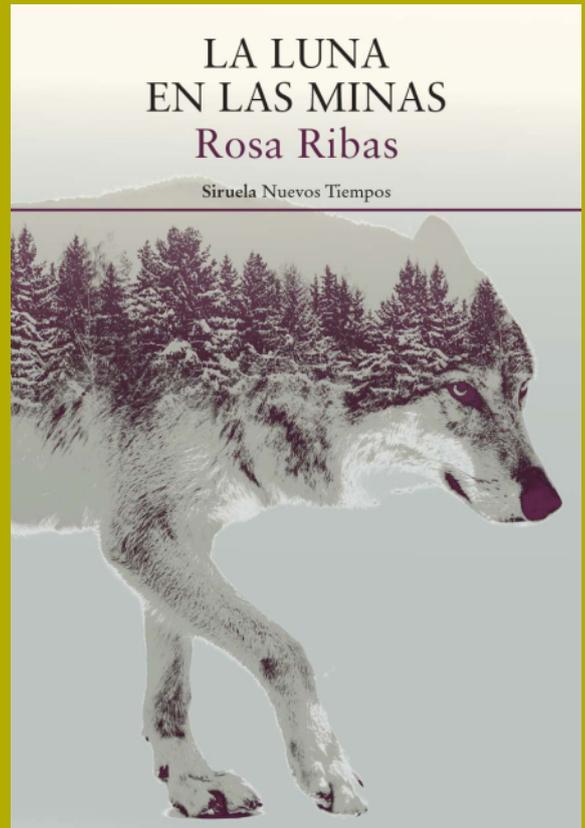
The Moon in the Mines La luna en las minas

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)

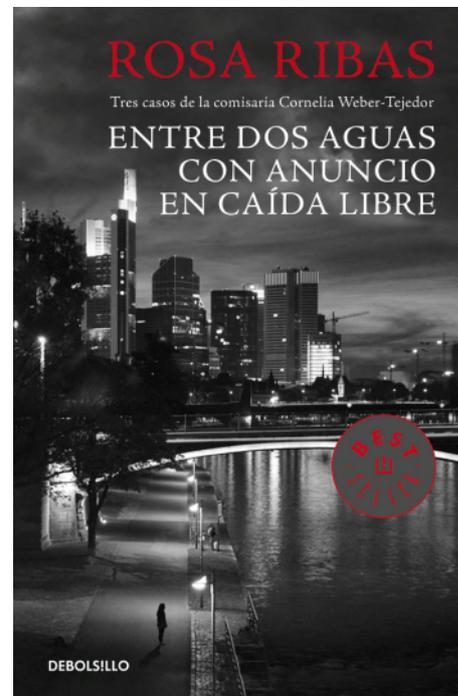
Details: **May 2016**

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

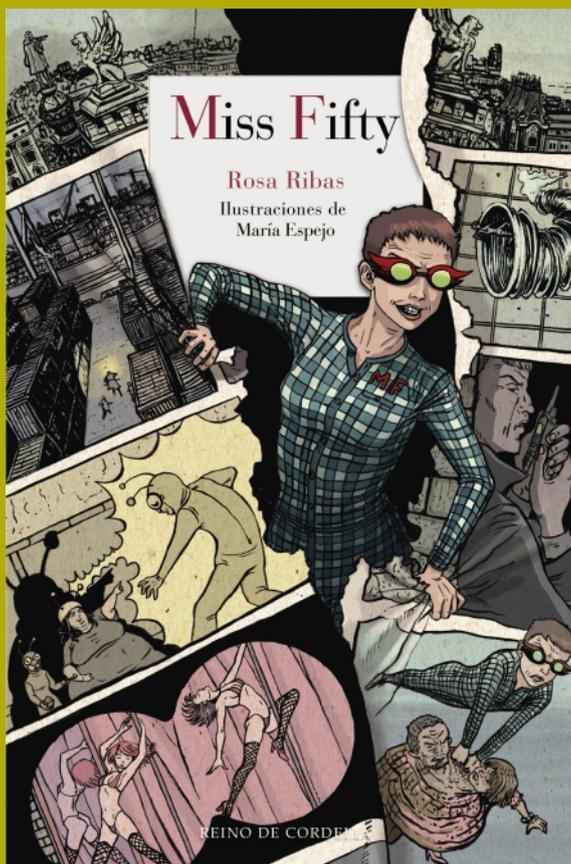
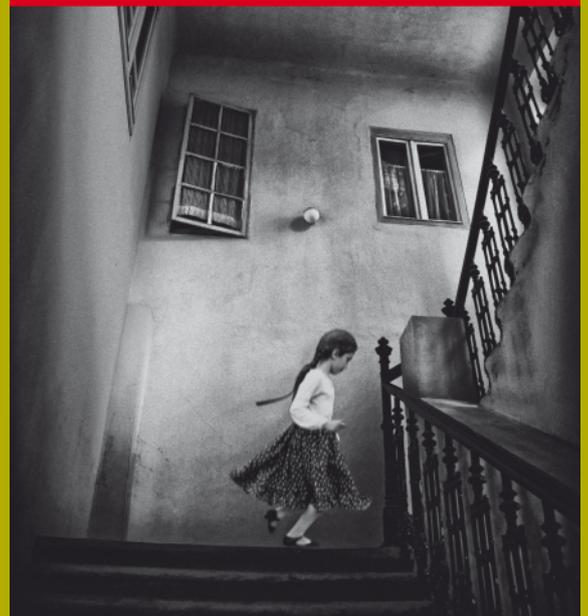
First Publisher:

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.

Goya's Daughter La hija

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

Details: **March 2026, 648 pages**

In 1878 Paris, a Spanish diplomat attends an exhibition that almost no one visits: Goya's Black Paintings, newly rescued from the walls of the Quinta del Sordo. Confronted with these disturbing works, he is pulled back into a buried past — and into the memory of Rosario Weiss, the woman he loved and the forgotten figure at the heart of Goya's final years.

The Daughter is a literary reimagining of history that restores the erased life of Rosario Weiss, the artist's pupil, companion, and symbolic daughter. Through a fictional manuscript written by an aging witness, Sergio del Molino reconstructs a silenced story and exposes how history, art, and patriarchy conspire to expel women from cultural memory.

Blending historical reconstruction, psychological depth, and essayistic reflection, the novel explores creation and legacy, love and obsession, artistic genius and moral blindness — and the cost of being close to greatness without being allowed to claim it.

- A powerful act of literary restoration: a forgotten woman brought back to the center of art history.
- Goya reimagined through an intimate, unsettling lens.
- A meditation on memory, silence, and authorship, resonant with contemporary debates on historical erasure.
- A bold narrative structure: a found manuscript that blurs fiction, history, and confession.
- High literary ambition, combining emotional intensity with intellectual depth.

This is literary historical fiction at its highest level: intellectually ambitious, emotionally intense, and profoundly relevant to contemporary debates on authorship, patriarchy, and the mechanisms of cultural myth-making.

Readers of Javier Marías and W.G. Sebald or will immediately recognize its international appeal.

Sergio del Molino

Two Afternoons with Joseph Roth

Dos tardes con Joseph Roth

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

Details: **March 2025, 112 pages**

Rights sold to: **World English (Pushkin Press)**

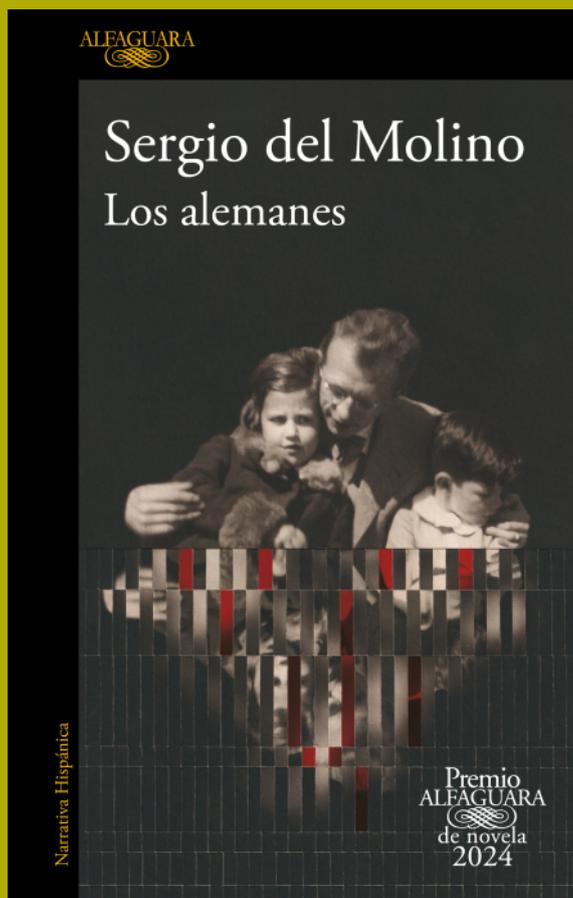
From Sergio's introduction:

Two afternoons are not enough to get to know a person. Two afternoons are not enough to read a writer. But two afternoons are enough to fall in love. Two afternoons are enough for friendships to begin. This new collection from Alianza vindicates the depths hidden in the lightness of two afternoons. That is the average time readers will spend with these books. The hope of the authors - and mine, the godfather of the invention - is that these two afternoons will be just the first that readers will spend in the company of the writer who is the subject of each title. The aim is that they will be infected by the enthusiasm of those who recommend them and immerse themselves in their work.

We have invited some of the best contemporary writers in Spanish to share their passion for a classic author included in Alianza Editorial's Biblioteca de autor de El libro de bolsillo. There are no master classes or specialist monographs here, but genuine enthusiasm from writer to writer. Great masters of yesterday contemplated through the eyes of today's masters. Literature, a solitary and intimate pleasure for both those who write and those who read, does not offer many occasions for socialising enthusiasm. With this collection we want to bring the great literary conversations into the hands of all readers. And spend two unforgettable afternoons together.



Sergio del Molino



Rights sold to:
Italy (Sellerio Editore)
Greece (Ikaros Books)
Portugal (Levoir)

The Germans Los alemanes

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

Details: **March 2024, 325 pages**

5th edition!

In 1916, in the middle of the First World War, two ships arrived in Cadiz with more than six hundred Germans from Cameroon. They had handed themselves in at the Guinean border to the colonial authorities because Spain was a neutral country. They settled, among other places, in Zaragoza, where they formed a small community that would not return to Germany. Among them was the great-grandfather of Eva and Fede, who, almost a century later, can be found at the German cemetery in Zaragoza at the burial of Gabi, their elder brother. Together with their father, they are the last survivors of the Schuster family, a family that went on to form an important food business. But in this day and age, the past can always come back to raise hackles.

With an intrigue that grows page by page, *The Germans* deals with one of the most shameful and least publicised episodes in Spanish history: how Nazi refugees here in a golden retreat triggered neo-Nazism in Germany. It subtly illuminates the hell that the family can sometimes be, and leaves two uncomfortable questions in the air: When do the faults of the parents expire, and do the children have an obligation to redeem them?

*Alfaguara Prize
for Fiction 2024*

The jury, made up of writers Sergio Ramírez, Juan José Millás, Laura Restrepo, Rosa Montero and Manuel Rivas, and the editorial director of Alfaguara, Pilar Reyes (with a voice but no vote), unanimously declared the novel the winner.

The jury praised *Los alemanes* for «its mastery in narrating a little-known event in Spanish history related to the mutations of Nazism and with profound consequences for today's world. Dark family secrets enclose a threatening past capable of destroying the present: do the children inherit their parents' guilt? A gripping novel that tests the conscience of the characters while shocking the conscience of the reader»

Sergio del Molino

Against Empty Spain Contra la España vacía

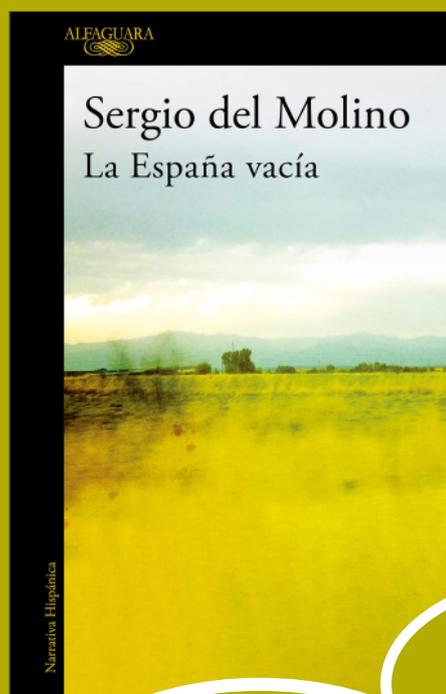
First Publisher: **Alfaguara (Spain & Latin America)**

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 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



Empty Spain La España vacía

16th edition

more than 50.000 copies sold!

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)

Portugal (Levoir)

*Premio
Cálamo 2017
Non Fiction*

*Bookseller Prize
Premio Gremio
de los Libreros*

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 of 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

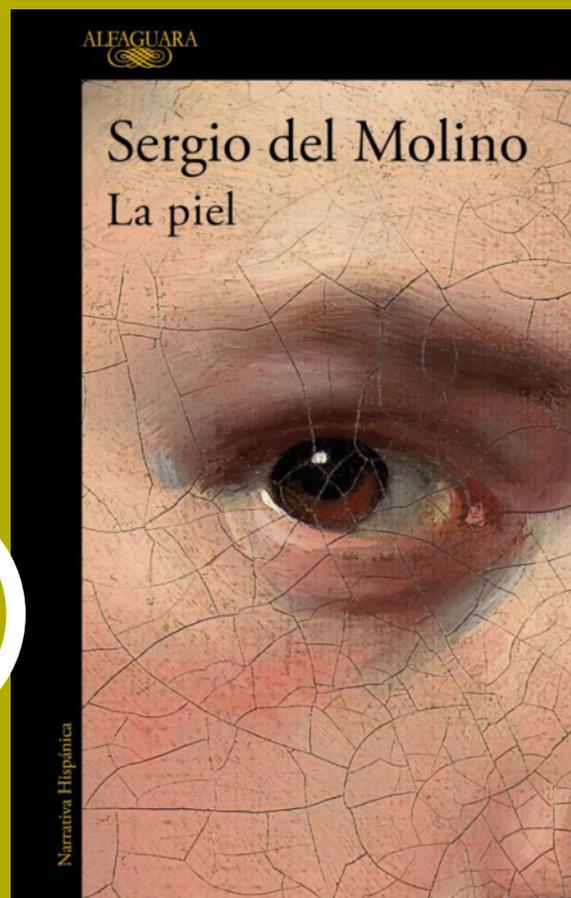
Monsters exist, but not as we imagine them. They cover themselves up among people with clothing and makeup to hide their nature. The narrator of this book is one of them. He suffers from a serious skin disease that leads him to avoid beaches and summer clothes and he sees himself reflected in the lives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

Rights sold to: **Portugal (Levoir)**

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:

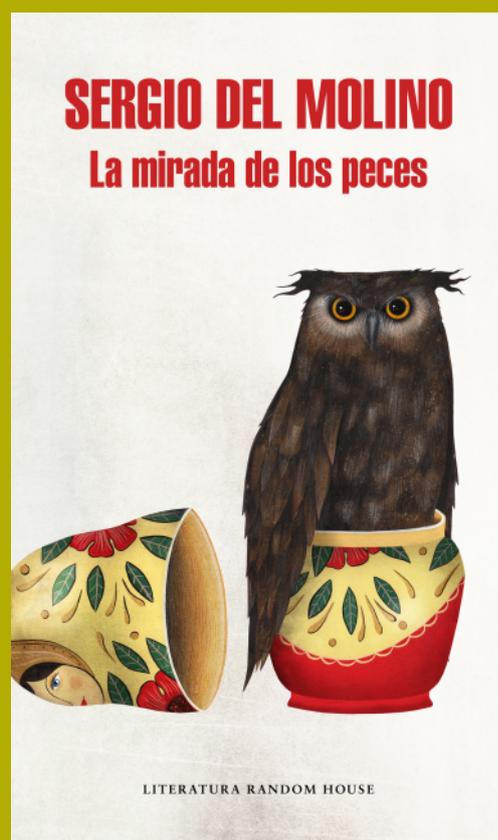
Penguin Random House (Spain & Latin America)

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, 9th edition

New Edition by:

Alfaguara (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **September 2023, 207 pages**

Rights sold to:

Italy (Sellerio Editore)

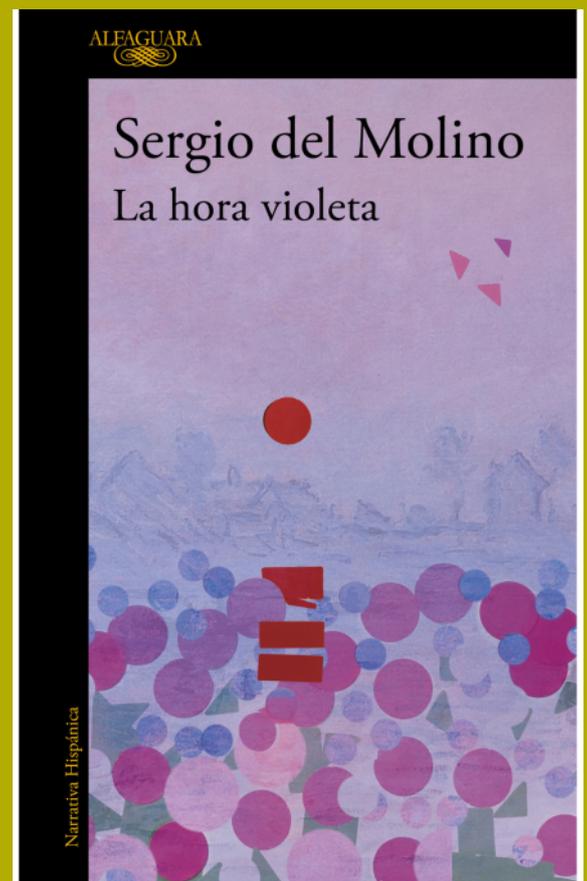
France (Sous-sol)

Portugal (Levoir)

“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*

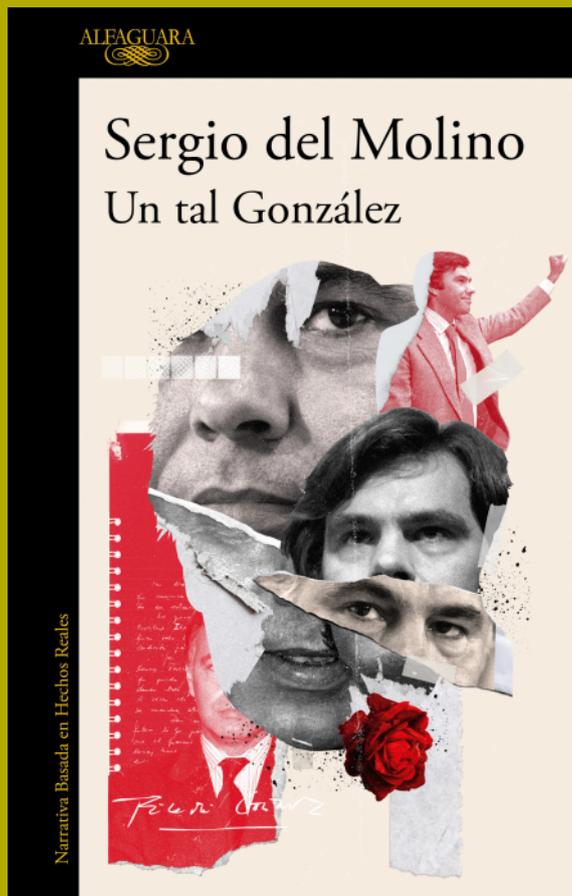
“An original and accomplished structure and a refined narrative voice with a marked personality that transcends testimony and mourning to place the reader before the chiaroscuro of the human condition faced with pain, illness and death”

Jury of the Ojo Crítico Prize

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

La Stampa

Sergio del Molino



"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.



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The
Ella Sher
Literary Agency

Tomás Sánchez Bellocchio



"In an increasingly dark Patagonia, teenagers test their place in the world, as bodies and as political subjects, between children's games and adult violence. With intelligent and precise prose, Tomás Sánchez Bellocchio immerses us in the tension between Argentina and Chile in 1978 so that we can understand a little better all the military tensions throughout history, including our own"

Jorge Carrión

Tomás Sánchez Bellocchio (Buenos Aires, 1981) lived for years in Mexico and now resides in Barcelona, where he works as a creative in advertising. His short story collection *Cereal Families* (2015) received widespread critical acclaim. *The Darkenings* is his stunning first novel.

*"Reading *Los oscurecimientos* is a joyful and disturbing experience: a rhythmic novel with captivating characters and hypnotic writing that sharply reflects on violence"*

Mónica Ojeda

The Darkenings

Los oscurecimientos

First Publisher: **Alianza Editorial (Spain & Latin America)**

Details: **February 2026. 312 pages**

Set in a remote Patagonian town during the 1978 Argentina–Chile border crisis, the novel offers a powerful coming-of-age story about boys who turn an impending war into a private mythology — with unsettling consequences.

Patagonia, 1978.

Argentina and Chile stand on the brink of war over the Beagle Channel. Troops mobilize, blackouts are rehearsed, and propaganda circulates — yet the conflict never erupts.

While the dictatorship masks the tension beneath the euphoric distraction of the Football World Cup, the adults of a small border town prepare quietly for the worst. Meanwhile, the children do the same — through games, rituals, and imagined battles of their own.

Quito, a teenage boy fascinated by military strategy and conflict, organizes his friends into a self-styled “theater of operations.” Invisible enemies, trenches, ranks, and codes of honor structure their days. The war they imitate feels inevitable — until an unexpected discovery, an abandoned tank, collapses the boundary between imagination and reality.

From that moment on, the boys’ game becomes a moral testing ground. Childhood gives way to something darker, as the novel traces the moment when play turns into violence and identity turns political.

With echoes of *Waiting for the Barbarians* and *Lord of the Flies*, *The Darkenings* stands firmly in the tradition of literary coming-of-age novels that examine power, expectation, and moral corrosion.

Toni Hill

3rd book of the The Hangman's trilogy

Toni Hill closes the most acclaimed thriller trilogy of recent years

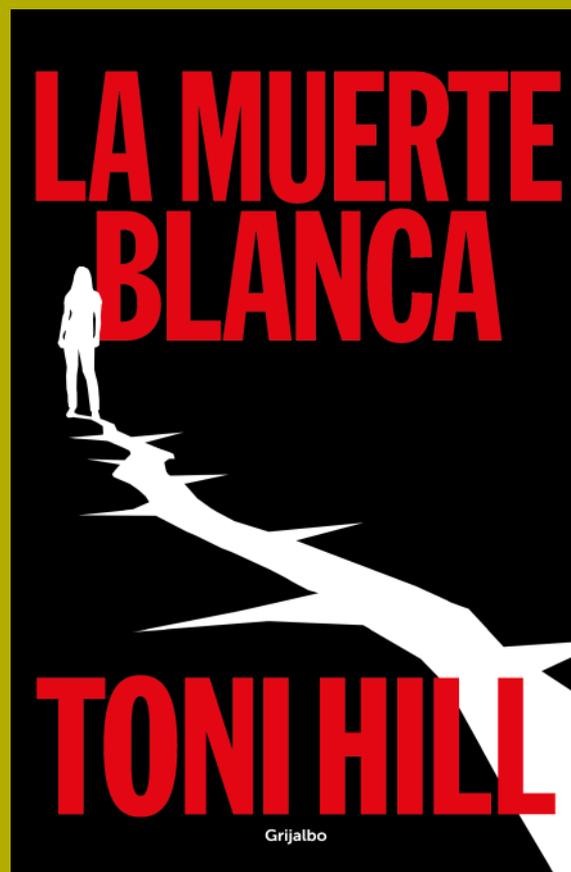
White Death La muerte blanca

First Publisher:

Grijalbo PRH (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **June 2025, 560 pages**

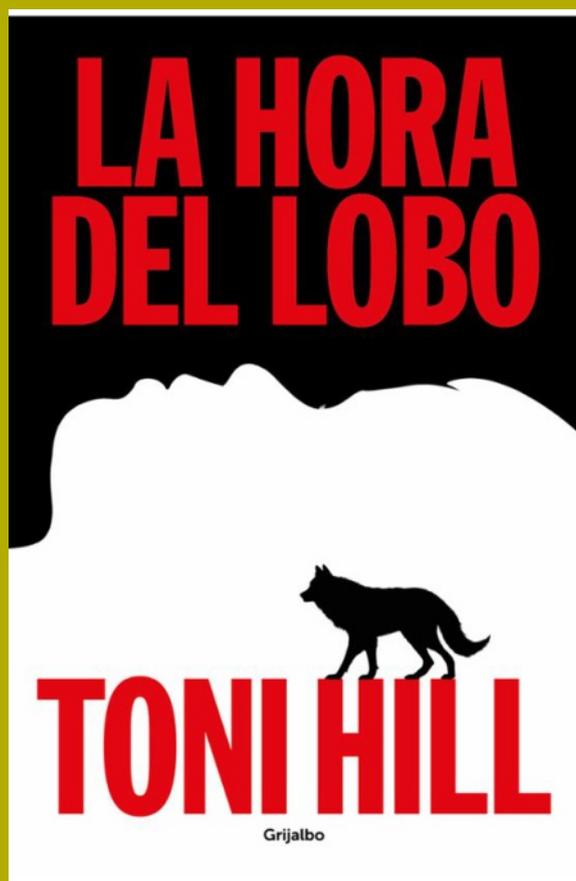
When five-year-old Lucía Yelmo disappears without a trace, the police start a search against the clock through the streets of Barcelona, a search that will seriously affect the sub-inspector Jarque, in charge of the case and partner of the criminologist Lena Mayoral. Meanwhile, The Hangman, on the run from justice, tries to get ahead in Belfast without forgetting the unfinished business he has left behind; especially Lena, the woman who unmasked him and who is still determined to write his story and expose his deepest secrets to the world. But the psychopath is not the only danger looming over her. There is someone else who follows her closely: a diffuse and perverse enemy who will not hesitate to attack if he feels threatened.



Toni Hill (Barcelona, 1966) holds a degree in psychology. He has been working 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). He has established himself as one of the most widely read and prestigious crime writers in Spain.

More than 300,000 copies of his books sold

Toni Hill



Toni Hill is already one of the modern classics of Spanish crime fiction

The Hour of the Wolf La hora del lobo

First Publisher:

Grijalbo PRH (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **June 2024, 558 pages**

The night Daniel disappeared, it was as if the darkness had swallowed him up. Not a trace of the boy was found, only the body of his mother, strangled in the house where they lived, in a small village in the Pyrenees. Seven years later, criminologist Lena Mayoral is hired by the victim's family to gather new clues in a case still shrouded in mystery.

On the run from her own nightmares - and still recovering from an attack by the serial killer known as The Executioner - Lena agrees to move into the same house where the boy disappeared. But her investigation takes a turn when the body of a fifteen-year-old teenager, the same age Daniel would have been, is found in one of the valley's churches.

Meanwhile, the Executioner, locked in jail awaiting trial, does not forget the woman who exposed him and counts the days until he must face her again.

Surrounded by threats that seem to multiply and isolated in a place where ghosts sometimes seem real, Lena is drawn into a dizzying countdown to stop the deaths that continue to plague the valley.

Toni Hill

*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**

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.

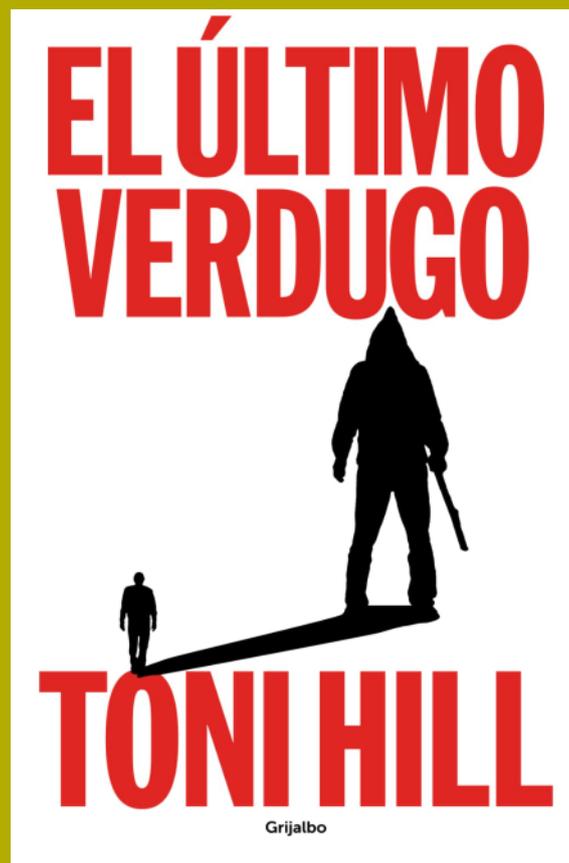
Why does he use such a gruesome method? What do the dead have in common?

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 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

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)

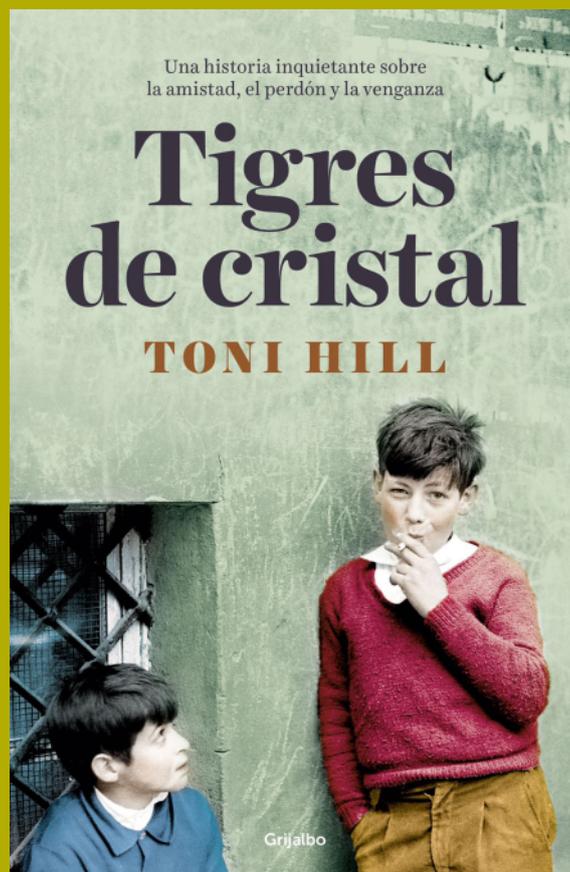
Rosa dels Vents (Catalan)

Details: **May 2018, 490 pages**

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

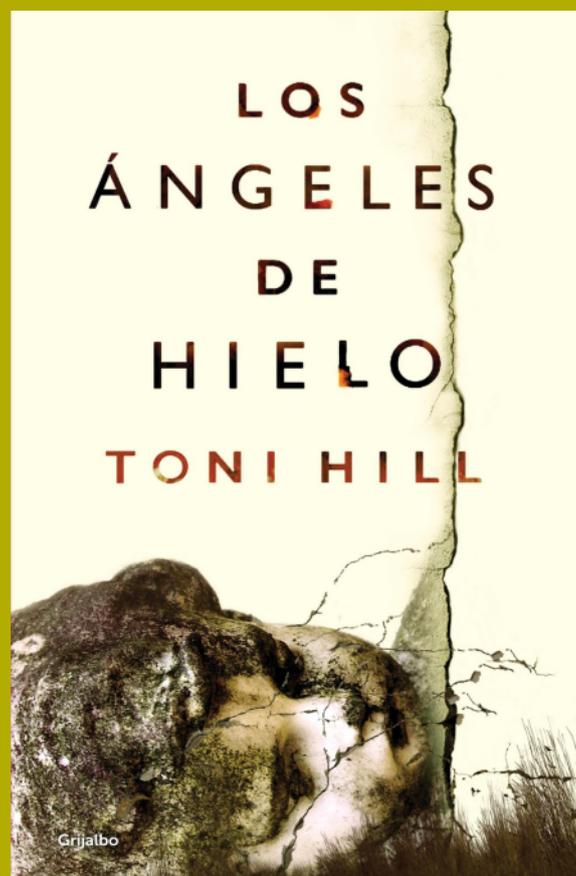
A gripping psychological thriller that explores the limits between guilt and atonement

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 PRH (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 Lapuente



*What would you be willing to sacrifice
to build a better world?*

What price would you be willing to pay?

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).

Immanence Inmanencia

First Publisher:

AdN / Anaya (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **September 2025, 464 pages**

In 1996, Martín, Miriam and Pablo, three teenagers from Chalamera, a village near the Monegros desert, discover a mystery hidden among the ruins of a Templar castle. But what begins as a game soon pits them against dark forces that will protect an ancient object at all costs: the Holy Grail.

In 2025, Martín awakens from a coma in Gothenburg, where he is researching cyber-democracy. He remembers that a year ago, he received a proposal from Emma, a businesswoman as fascinating as she is dangerous. What seems like an opportunity to change humanity becomes a race against time that will take him from Barcelona to Oxford via Bogotá.

In 2086, the Republic of the West lives under the guidance of FRIDA, an artificial intelligence that guarantees absolute freedom for all people. But Anna discovers a secret in a forgotten library that could bring this perfect world crashing down.

Three eras. Three lives connected by an enigma that could save the world... or destroy it.

Virginia Mendoza

Thirst La sed

*“A book that could win
the Oscar for best editing”
Jorge Dioni, El País*

First Publisher:

Debate PRH (Spain & Latin America)

Details: **February 2024, 288 pages. 2nd Edition!**

Rights sold to:

World English (Pushkin Press)

The Netherlands (De Geus)

Italy (Bompiani)

Germany (Suhrkamp)

Portugal (Objectiva)

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

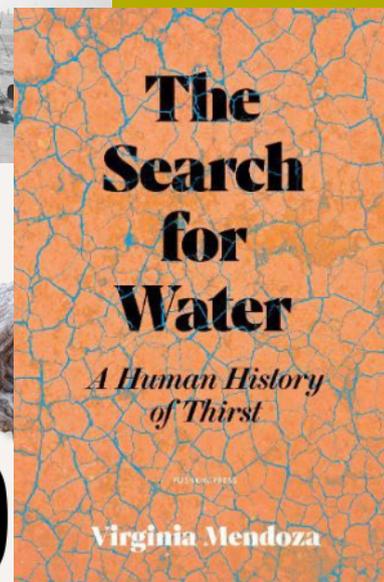
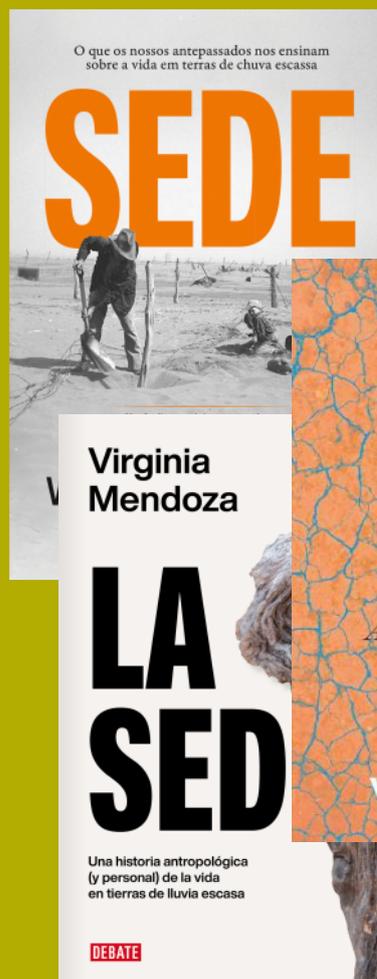
This story also begins in a place in La Mancha. There, thousands of years ago, the first hydraulic society of our continent arose. Long afterwards, thirst filled these lands with vineyards and olive trees. It was there that Virginia Mendoza, anthropologist and journalist whose personal and family history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



“This is one of the most important books you will read this year. Mind-blowing in many ways and masterful in all.”

Sergio del Molino

“Could occupy a niche between Harari's Sapiens and Fera by Ana Iris Simón, such is the magnitude of the research and the popular seasoning it offers”

José María Robles, El Mundo

Virginia Mendoza (Valdepeñas, 1987) is a journalist and anthropologist. 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).

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