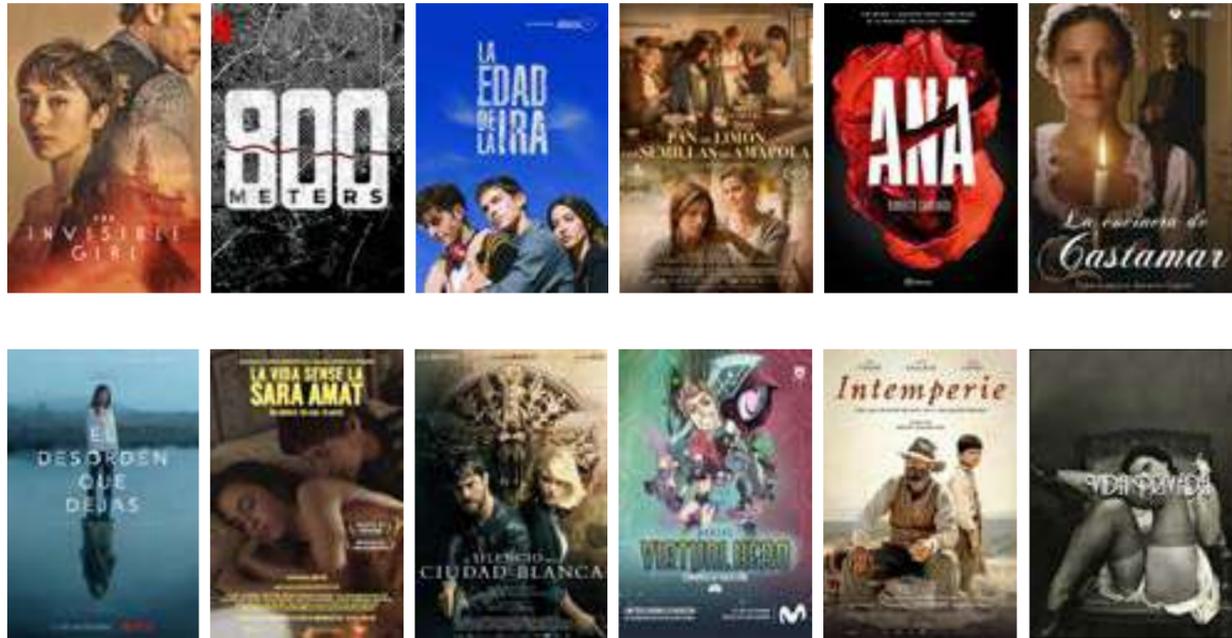


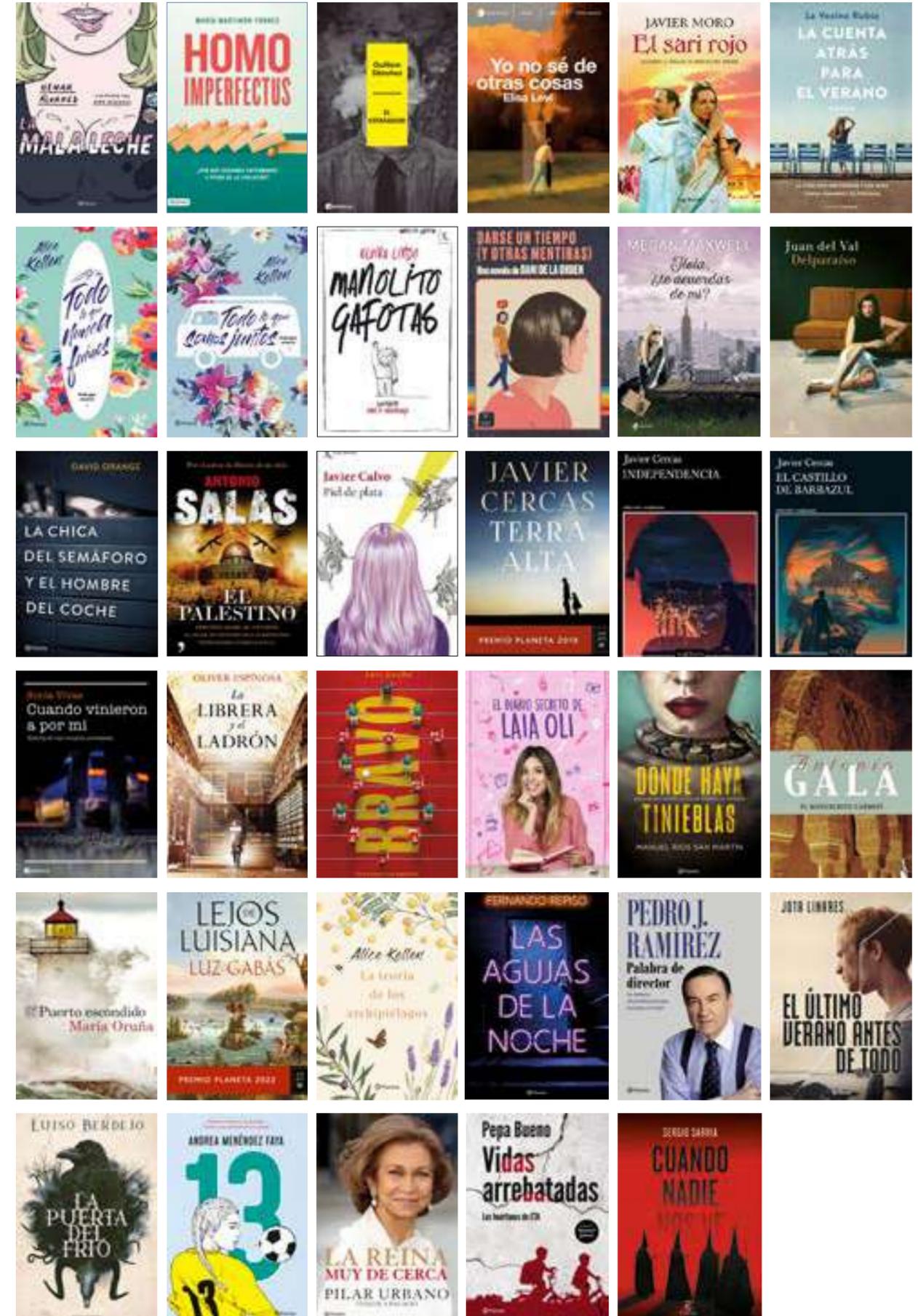
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FEBRUARY 2023

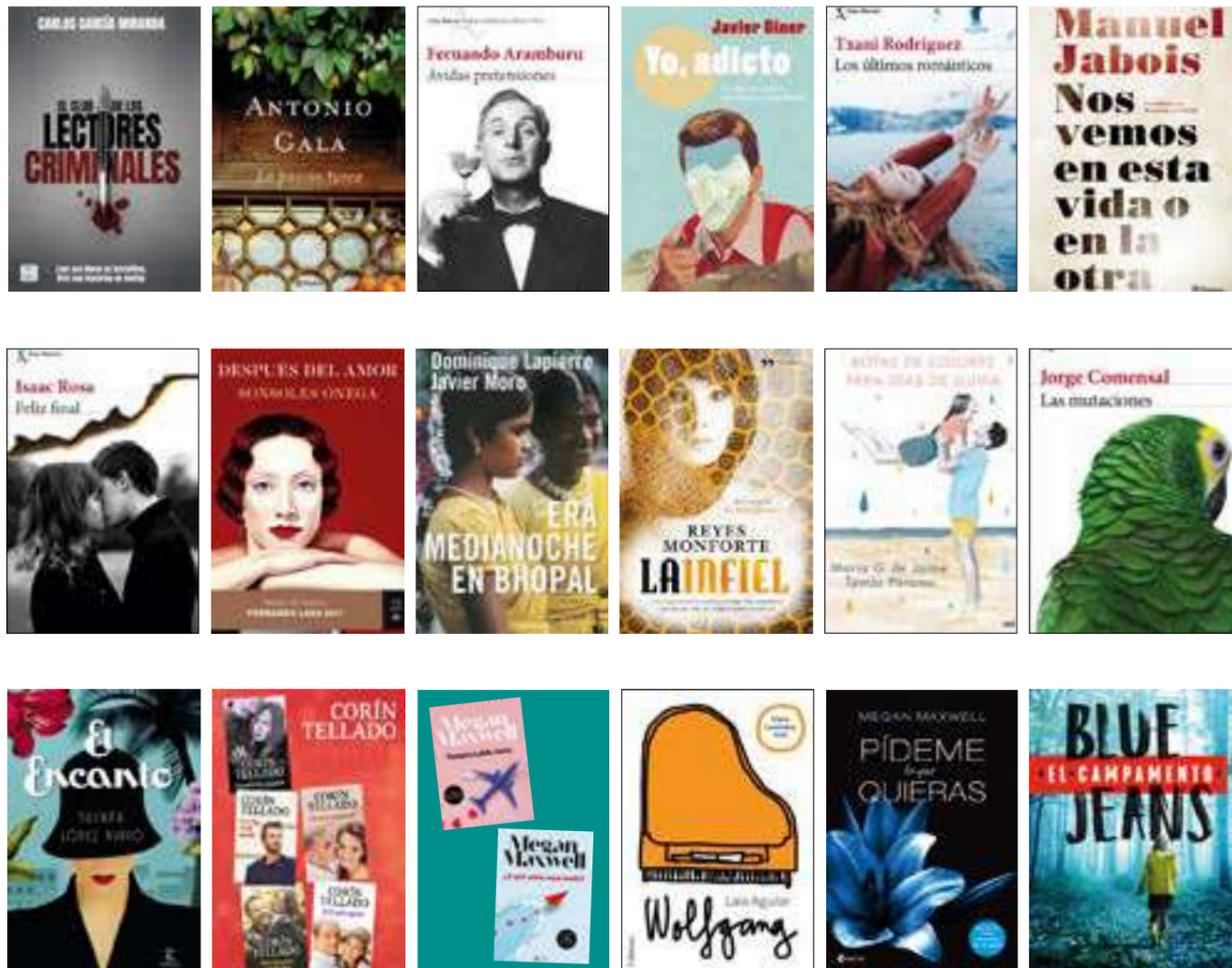
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OUR OPTIONED TITLES



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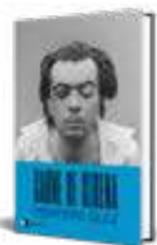


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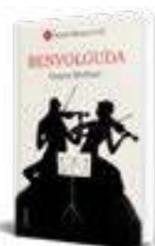


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YOU, ME AND A MAYBE

MARÍA MARTÍNEZ

GENRE: NEW ADULT, K-DRAMA | **PLACE:** LONDON, KOREA | **TIME:** PRESENT

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

Jun is a young Korean guy whose parents had arranged for him to marry Minah, a girl he has known for a long time but with whom he is not in love. Breaking this commitment means breaking the rigid Korean customs, something that can put the reputation of the family at stake. But both Minah and Jun don't understand that a simple cultural conviction can throw their lives into failure. On the other hand, Daniela has done everything to fulfil her dream of dedicating herself to the world of fashion regardless a mature woman in her thirties whose world is being rebuilt after her divorce. She no longer believes in love relationships. But she meets Jun, a boy younger than her, who will become someone essential in her life.

THEMES

FIGHTING FOR YOUR DREAMS | INTERRACIAL DATING
K-DRAMA | INSTANT CONNECTION | FASHION WORLD

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Jun:** Twenty six years old, young videogame designer. He emigrated to London from Korea as a young boy. Although he lives a western life his family's traditions burden him. They want to force him into marriage with a Korean woman. When he meets Dani, he decides to bet everything on their love, although this means abandoning his roots.
- **Dani:** Twenty two years old, fashion designer. Born in Spain, she moved to London to pursue her dream of owning her fashion label. Her previous partner cheated on her with her younger sister. She is still dealing with that today. Upon meeting Jun, she will have to heal her wounds so she is able to trust again.
- **Jun's mother:** She is a devout follower of Korean traditions who doesn't realise she is pulling her family apart by forcing them to follow the mandates of a tradition that go against their individual wishes.
- **Ren:** Jun's best friend. They met shortly after Jun arrived in London. He is Jun's partner and colleague in the videogame studio.

SYNOPSIS

After finding out that her husband was cheating on her with her younger sister, Dani cut all ties with her family, left for London, and opened her own clothing store. Although she tries to go on dates, she feels that she is still not ready to get to know another person. Jun, a young videogame designer, came to London with his family as a child. After the family had arrived, his biological father abandoned them. His mother is a loyal defender of traditional values and believes in arranged marriages. She has set Jun up on a date with Minah, a young Korean girl, as she believes that their marriage could benefit both families. What Jun's mother doesn't realise is that Minah and Jun's were together for a while, but it didn't work out. The two still get along though, and come up with a plan that means their families will leave them alone for a while: they are going to pretend they are a couple and get married.

Jun and Dani's paths cross in a restaurant. Dani is in the middle of a disastrous date and Jun gets her out of it. Soon after, they meet again by chance in a café, and it turns out that Dani's house is opposite Jun's studio. The pair get to know each other over coffees, they tell their life stories, and talk about their failures and their dreams in meetings that become less and less casual.

Neither of them can get the other out of their head. Dani cannot stop thinking about Jun, even though she doesn't particularly like the story he tells her about

Minah. Jun realises the situation is unsustainable and meets with Minah to end the charade. However, Minah doesn't agree, and wants Jun to give her a chance, telling him she could be a good wife. Jun is determined, Dani is who he wants to be with.

Minah is not ready to lose Jun, so she tells his mother everything. She kicks her son out of the family. Jun is devastated, as his family means everything to him. The situation begins to affect the couple, as Dani doesn't see eye to eye with him when it comes to family, and she decides it is best that they break up. She is not willing to let him lose everything for her.

Jun leaves for Korea to do his mandatory military service. There is nothing tying him to London, and he needs to distance himself and clear his head. He will be there for two years, thinking about Dani every single night. Dani won't be able to forget him either, and she regrets breaking up with him.

Jun makes peace with his mother, who regrets kicking him out of the family because of her stubbornness. Returning from Korea, he sees Dani with a friend and her daughter, and mistakes the child for Dani's. After clearing up the confusion, Dani and Jun reconcile, believing that their love deserves a second chance. Now nothing can separate them. Four months later, they move into a beautiful house facing a London park.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

María Martínez is the author of the New Adult series *Crossing the Limits*. She has also written the novels *A Song for Novalie*, *Words that I Never Told You*, *You and Other Natural Disasters*, *The Fragility of a Heart Under the Rain* and the two-book series *You, Me and a Maybe*, and *You, Me and a Perhaps*. Her works are always delicate stories, dealing with the complexity of emotions, and topics such as family and identity.

REFERENCES



Serendipity



When Harry Met Sally

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- Spanish long synopsis



YOU, ME AND A PERHAPS

MARÍA MARTÍNEZ

GENRE: K-DRAMA | **PLACE:** LONDON, KOREA, PARIS | **TIME:** PRESENT

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

Ren and Jisoo have known each other since childhood and they couldn't be more different. He has never had it easy and hides his vulnerability behind a carefree appearance. She wants to go out into the world and find love. He hides scars much deeper than those that you find in his skin. She wants to fly high and fulfill that dream that she does not dare to confess. However, when fate puts them to the test, they will discover that the heart knows no rules. Because there are opposites that go well together and feelings that are stronger than the fear of the forbidden. Because love does not know the impossible and, sometimes, it is worth betting everything for a handful of maybes.

THEMES

FAMILY BONDS

MENTAL HEALTH

UNEXPECTED LOVE

OVERCOMING

K-DRAMA

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Ren:** Twenty nine years old. Confident young man who always defends his friends from bullies and injustices. He has his own business where he works as a videogame programmer. He has a hard childhood, so he is a reserved person. He has to deal with his past in order to close his wounds.
- **Jisoo:** Twenty one years old. She is studying Odontology, despite she really wants to be a photographer. Her most fear is disappointing her parents. She has always been in love with Ren.
- **Mrs. Bae:** Jisoo's mother and Ren's stepmother. She adopted Ren when his mother died and his father went to prison. She tried to be an artist but she finished working as a waitress. Now, she has her own Korean restaurant. She is so protective with Jisoo and pushes her to be successful in life, despite what their real dreams are.
- **Tae:** Ren's brother. He left in search of a better future but he never came back for his little brother.

SYNOPSIS

When Ren is just twelve, he loses his parents. His older brother Tae leaves in search of a better future and promises to come back as soon as he settles down. But time goes by without hearing from him and Ren is taken in by Mrs. Bae who raises him as well as her two daughters, Soomin and Jisoo.

Seventeen years later, Ren is working as a videogame designer in the company he has founded. He lives with his partner Emily, although the distance between them is increasing. On the other hand, Jisoo has just returned from Korea where she has been studying Dentistry for a semester, in spite of her true passion is photography. She doesn't want to disappoint her parents who have been sacrificing so she can have a promising future. Her family also doesn't know she is dating Matt. Actually, she has always been in love with Ren, but he only sees her as his little sister. Her relationship with Matt has been great for a time, but she doesn't like him anymore and they break up.

Emily and Ren put also an end to their relationship. From this moment on, Ren and Jisoo spend more time together and the complicity that exists between them increases day-to-day. He gives her a camera because he knows photography is more than a hobby for her.

Jisoo spends the summer in Korea. During this time, she keeps in touch with Ren, but when she returns to London, the boy ignores her. She asks him to stop playing with her feelings and he just kisses her.

Although they are worried about the age difference and their family's reaction, they decide to give it a try.

After all these years, Tae contacts Ren. He has a degenerative liver disease and needs urgently a transplant from a donor who shares his blood type and genes. Tae could not care less about Ren, but the boy decides to undergo the surgery. Meanwhile, Jisoo receives a scholarship to study Arts in Paris. She shares this with Ren and they kiss. Then, Mrs. Bae catches them. She can't believe what she has just seen and asks them to put an end to this nonsense. Although Ren is in love with Jisoo, he decides to break up with her to not let Mrs. Bae down. Jisoo explodes and tells her mother how unhappy she feels. She doesn't want to continue studying Dentistry. She is going to accept the scholarship despite it means to risk everything for an uncertain future as a photographer.

Days later, exhausted by the sadness and feeling unable to find relief, Ren starts therapy. This way, he overcomes the traumatic experiences he lived as a child. In Paris, Jisoo is happy, although she doesn't forget Ren. She reconciles with her mother who finally encourages her to pursue her dreams and Ren goes to Paris. He is still in love with her.

Three years later, Jisoo has finished her studies in Paris and has settled down in London where she lives happily with Ren.

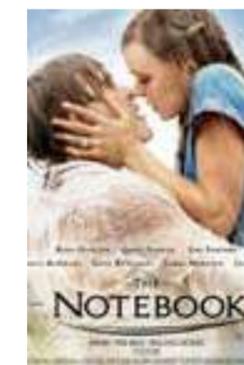
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

María Martínez is the author of the New Adult series *Crossing the Limits*. She has also written the novels *A Song for Novalie*, *Words that I Never Told You*, *You and Other Natural Disasters*, *The Fragility of a Heart Under the Rain* and the two-book series *You, Me and a Maybe*, and *You, Me and a Perhaps*. Her works are always delicate stories, dealing with the complexity of emotions, and topics such as family and identity.

REFERENCES



It's Okay To Not Be Okay



The Notebook

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- Spanish long synopsis

MORE THAN
60,000 COPIES SOLD
IN SPAIN



THE MAP OF LONGING

ALICE KELLEN

GENRE: NEW ADULT | **PLACE:** INK LAKE (NEBRASKA), AMSTERDAM, LONDON, PARIS, ROME, VIENNA | **TIME:** PRESENT

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

Grace's life has always been shaped by the fact she was born to save her sister Lucy, who was sick with leukemia. But despite everyone's efforts, shortly before her twenty-fifth birthday, Lucy dies, and Grace falls into a crisis, no longer able to find meaning in her life. Everything changes the day her grandfather gives her "The Map of Longing", a board game Lucy created especially to help Grace regain her zest for life. She has to contact Will Tucker, a boy she doesn't know and who turns out to be an attractive guy with a mysterious past. As they follow the steps of the game, they slowly emerge from their shells and fall in love. From that moment on, the road ahead for them is full of challenges that can only be overcome if they both free themselves from the burden of the past and connect with themselves.

THEMES

SELF-KNOWLEDGE | TERMINAL ILLNESS | OVERCOMING
JOY FOR LIFE | EMBRACING LOVE STORY

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Grace Peterson:** twenty two years old. Her mission in life is to save her sister Lucy. However, upon Lucy's death, Grace feels like her life has no longer any meaning. She is an art lover.
- **Lucy Peterson:** Grace's older sister. She suffers from leukaemia. Before passing she designs a board game, "The Map of Longing", with the purpose of helping her sister to regain her *joie de vivre*.
- **Will Tucker:** twenty five years old. He is trapped in a spiral of self-hatred as a result of living his life burning the candle at both ends. However, after being involved in a serious car crash and meeting Grace, he'll have a chance to come out of it.
- **Rosie and Jacob Peterson:** Grace's parents. Upon losing Lucy they will become absent and depressed.
- **Henry:** Grace's grandfather who plays a central part in the life of her granddaughter.
- **Taylor:** He is Grace' boyfriend. He is a badass, both a small drug dealer and a womaniser.

SYNOPSIS

Grace is a twenty-two year old young woman who has never left the city where she grew up. She is a school dropout, she doesn't work and hangs out with her boyfriend Taylor, a troublemaker for whom she has no feelings. Grace's life was conceived with the main purpose of saving her sister Lucy, who suffered from leukaemia, using the stem cells of her umbilical cord. However, Lucy rejected her sister's cells and dies.

Grace has been suffering an identity crisis ever since. Her mother spends her days staring at the TV, while her father is lost in his own thoughts. One day, grandpa Henry gives Grace a box that Lucy left for her. Upon opening it, she finds "The Map of Longing", a board game especially designed for her. There is also a letter from Lucy explaining that, in order to start the game, Grace will have to contact Will Tucker. Grace has never met this guy before, but as soon as she does, she feels attracted to his melancholic glow.

The game starts with a request: Grace has to join a therapy for bereaved family members. After, she is asked to regain her love for ice-skating, a practice that she abandoned after Lucy got diagnosed. Little by little, Grace will rediscover the things that make her feel alive. One of them is travelling.

Will and Grace are slowly falling in love. But before the

relationship goes any further, Will explains her that he used to be a bully at school. Over the years, he stood out as a successful lawyer and had a fiancé to whom he was unfaithful. One night, while driving drunk, Will suffers an accident that leaves him in a coma. During his convalescence at the hospital, he meets Lucy, a former school classmate whom he doesn't remember. Will feels utterly lost after the crash, and moves out to a mobile home in Ink Lake. It is only then when Grace shows up with "The Map of Longing".

Grace becomes mad at Will's past, but she ends up surrendering to their passion. In the last square of the board game, Lucy gives away her savings to her sister Grace to embark on a trip across Europe. Even though Grace wants to travel with Will, she decides to take the journey alone. She breaks up with him, in order to let Will figure out his dreams on his own terms. Grace travels to Amsterdam, London, Paris, Rome and Vienna, while she reconnects with her inner self. Will, for his part, apologises to all the people he abused and closes his wounds.

After a time, Will and Grace reunite in Vienna and kiss each other. Grace writes a letter to her sister: she is ready to live her life to the fullest on behalf of the two of them.

TRANSLATIONS: GERMAN, ENGLISH.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alice Kellen is a promising young Spanish writer, well used to living between the characters, scenes and emotions that she captures on paper. She is the author of the novels *The Boy who Drew Constellations*, the two-part saga *Let It Happen: All That We Never Were & All That We Are Together, Us On the Moon*, *Sophie's Wings*, *The Map of Longing* and *Where Everything Shines*. Alice Kellen writes of universal, crossover themes, such as love, friendship, insecurities, losses and longing for a brighter future; she has found a true voice that allows her to connect with young and older audiences alike.

REFERENCES



The Fault in Our Stars



Paper Towns

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- English long synopsis
- English press file

US ON THE MOON

ALICE KELLEN



MORE THAN
220,000 COPIES SOLD
IN SPAIN

GENRE: ROMANTIC LOVE | **PLACE:** PARIS, LONDRES, IBIZA, NEW YORK, LA, AUSTRALIA |
TIME: PRESENT

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

Ginger and Rhys meet in Paris and fall in love instantly. However, they are in moments of their lives that are too different to start a relationship, but their love is so powerful, that they build an intimate friendship via email, over five years. During that time, they undress in front of each other. Despite the fact that on a couple of occasions they have a physical romance, they do not manage to make their paths meet, until each of them, freed from their respective emotional backpack (she must leave her family bubble and create her own destiny; he, mature and forgive those who have hurt him), finally overcomes life's stumbling blocks so they can present themselves in front of the other, ready to love and be loved.

THEMES

SELF-ACCEPTANCE **LONG DISTANCE RELATIONSHIP**
COMING-OF-AGE **FRIENDS-TO-LOVERS** **NEW ADULT**

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Ginger:** 21 years old. Business student and good-girl prototype. Her parents are a loving couple, but also traditional and conservative.
- **Rhys:** 26 years old. He makes electronic music and works as a DJ. He travels without destination, lives day by day and surfs from one relationship to the other. Meeting Ginger changes his life. His parents are a wealthy and conservative couple from Tennessee.
- **Kate:** Ginger's best friend. They study together and then work at the publishing house the protagonist finds.
- **Sarah:** actress with whom Rhys has an on-off relationship.
- **Logan:** Rhys's friend and confidant.
- **Dean:** Ginger's high school boyfriend.
- **James:** Ginger's son's father, with whom she will have a relationship.

SYNOPSIS

Ginger and Rhys meet in Paris. She has run away from her native London after her lifetime boyfriend broke up with her without much of an explanation; he has been living like a nomad for months, after a devastating fight with his parents. They spent barely 24 hours together, but their lives will remain connected for almost a decade, in a symbiotic relationship that nourishes them and feeds them as much as it wears them down and suffocates them. From their magic night in the City of Light, under the moonlight, a long-distance relationship will stand, via email, in which both undress in front of each other, cementing a deep and intimate friendship. However, none of them can hide the fact that they fell in love with each other that day in Paris. And in spite of feeling tied together by an invisible thread, the couple never seems to be ready to compromise. Ginger has a life in London; Rhys is not willing to settle down.

Years go by, and even though they have a few physical encounters, they both go their own ways. Rhys lives an exhausting life, whose only objective seems to be to fill up an infinite void, something he thinks he can do through an hedonistic existence, without commitments nor ties. His career as a DJ takes off and he moves to Ibiza, where he indulges in constant excesses, going from success to success, and having released

two albums. However, he is deeply unhappy, growing more and more cynical and bitter.

Meanwhile, Ginger feels the pressure of staying on the right path, one that had been drawn by others, by her parents, by society. But little by little, she decides to take control: she leaves the family business and ventures into her own project, a publishing house, Moon Books. She also tries to make her relationship with a lawyer, James, work out, and in spite of not succeeding in it, she will become the mother of a wonderful boy with him, Leon. Ginger is proud of her journey, her mistakes, her battles. She feels comfortable with herself, even though she keeps chasing the love of her life, one that seems to be reluctant both to leave her and to let her go, to love her and to be loved.

Rhys has succumbed to the abyss, lost in the labyrinth of his fears, insecurities and vulnerabilities, lacking the strength or the encouragement to find the way back to the surface. Is there any chance to meet again? Maybe there is. After all, they look at the same moon every night, and they danced together under the light in Paris. Why not do it again? With Ginger's help, Rhys will find the way back, leave behind his alcohol and drug abuse, forgive others and himself, and mature. Finally, they are ready to fly to the moon.

TRANSLATIONS: BRAZILIAN, POLISH, PORTUGUESE, ENGLISH.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alice Kellen is a promising young Spanish writer, well used to living between the characters, scenes and emotions that she captures on paper. She is the author of the novels *The Boy who Drew Constellations*, the two-part saga *Let It Happen: All That We Never Were & All That We Are Together*, *Us On the Moon*, *Sophie's Wings*, *The Map of Longing* and *Where Everything Shines*. Alice Kellen writes of universal, crossover themes, such as love, friendship, insecurities, losses and longing for a brighter future; she has found a true voice that allows her to connect with young and older audiences alike.

REFERENCES



Before Sunrise



Like Crazy

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- English long synopsis
- English sample



THE ZODIAC GIRL

ANDREA IZQUIERDO

GENRE: CHICK-LIT, NEW ADULT | **PLACE:** SPAIN, LOS ANGELES | **TIME:** CURRENT DAYS

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

When Anna leaves her fiancé standing in the altar, she does it knowing that their relationship is missing something. From then on, Anna's universe turns upside down in such a manner, that when a friend tells her that the answer might be written in the stars, she finds herself considering that option in almost complete disbelief. But, what if the horoscope is right when it says that a relationship between an Aries and a Libra is doomed to failure from the beginning? How to prove such a statement, if not by dating twelve men during an entire year, in order to double check if they match what is expected from them according to their star sign?

THEMES

TINDER WILD ROM-COM SELF-KNOWLEDGE JOURNEY
HOROSCOPE EROTICISM

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Anna** (28): She works as a translator and she has just left her fiancé, Carlos, jilted at the altar. Right after such a bummer, she decides to move out to Los Angeles with her brother Raúl.
- **Raül:** Anna's young brother. He is a music producer and seems to be rolling in money.
- **Connor:** Raúl's housemate in LA.
- **Harry:** he works as a journalist and a painter. He is friend of Julia and Olivia.
- **Jakob:** Julia's cousin and a Libra guy.
- **Theo:** a Tinder discovery and a Scorpio man.
- **Ali:** Harry's workmates and a Sagittarius man.
- **Cameron:** Capricorn and successful businessman.

SYNOPSIS

After being in a relationship for years, Anna realises that she actually does not want to marry Carlos. Unfortunately, the revelation only comes to her mind when she is about to exchange the "I do's", which unleashes a massive tremor in both of their lives. One of Anna's girlfriends, Valeria, lets her know that she could see the breakup coming from the beginning, she actually reckons that she was positive about them being doomed to failure since Anna is an Aries woman and Carlos a Libra man. Anna has never taken astrology seriously, until she discovers herself brooding over the idea. What if Valeria was right?

In order to escape the mess that is her life, Anna books a flight to Los Angeles and seeks shelter in the house of her younger brother, Raúl, who is a music producer. Raúl has a housemate, Connor, with whom Anna will clash straight away. Nonetheless, right after landing, Anna comes up with a plan to check out if there is any truth behind Valeria's astrological statement. Hence she decides to go around the whole horoscope dating a man of each of its twelve signs for a single month. Who knows, perhaps since she is at it, she may as well end up learning something about herself?

Anna lands in LA in October, so she starts dating a man born under the sign of Libra. The relationship

is brief and calamitous, and Anna can clearly see the same inglorious patterns that marked the relationship with her ex. After the early fiasco, Anna calls Carlos to apologise to him, and Carlos jumps on the first flight to Los Angeles to try to reconcile with her. However, while rummaging through his things, Anna finds out that Carlos has been having a parallel relationship with her friend Valeria, and kicks him out of the house.

The Scorpio man that she meets through Tinder is such an improvement. Their sexual chemistry is so unparalleled, that Anna resolves not to get in touch with him again in order to avoid getting hooked. Next comes the Sagittarius man, and they get off to a good start. However, he turns out to be a jerk that refuses to use condoms. Thanks to the Capricorn man, Anna manages to find a job as a translator that would allow her to stay in the country lawfully.

It is then that the news break: Anna's and Raúl mother has suffered an ictus, which means that they both have to return to Spain in a hurry, although not before Anna discovers, through Connor, that her brother is having serious issues with drugs and that he is crippled with debts, making his future in Los Angeles highly uncertain.

TRANSLATIONS: POLISH.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Andrea Izquierdo is a writer and entrepreneur. She has been working in the publishing industry for the last eight years. She has published ten young fiction books, including the saga Otoño en Londres (Autumn in London), and the trilogy Helen Parker. She studied Law and Business Administration at the University of Zaragoza and has completed a Master's Degree in Publishing at the University Pompeu Fabra, in Barcelona. In 2020 she co-founded Meikabuk, a business that provides publishing services for authors, and in 2021 she also created LITERALI Box, a company specialised in book crates and gifts for readers. She currently works for both companies, while she keeps on writing and rising as an outspoken literary influencer, booktuber and reading promoter thanks to her increasingly trending social network profiles, including Instagram, TikTok, Twitter and YouTube.

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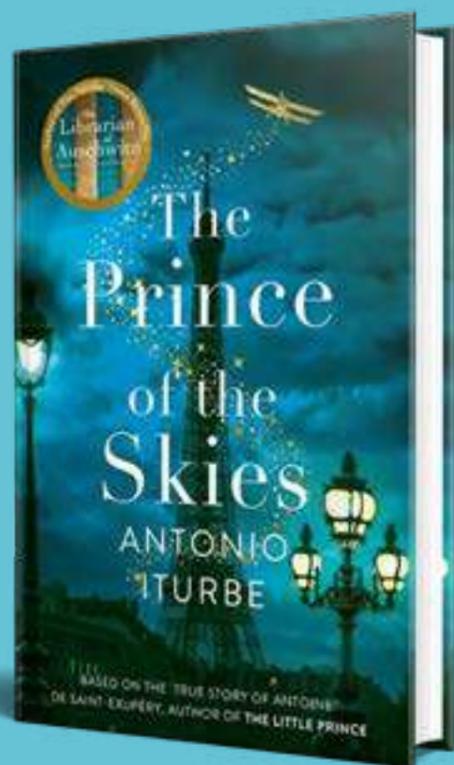
Valeria



Astrological Guide for Broken Hearts

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- Spanish long synopsis
- Spanish press file



THE PRINCE OF THE SKIES

ANTONIO ITURBE

GENRE: HISTORICAL ADVENTURES | **PLACE:** PARIS, CENTRAL FRANCE, SYRIA, MOROCCO, BUENOS AIRES, THE ANDES, PATAGONIA, NEW YORK, CORSICA | **TIME:** 1924-1944

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

France in the 1920s. Only the best pilots are given jobs at Latécoère. The successful candidates include Jean Mermoz, Henri Guillaumet and Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, three heroic aviators who will pioneer new mail routes across the world. No distance is too far and no mountain too high: the letters must reach their destination. Back on terra firma, they must deal with the troubles they encounter during a century torn apart by war.

The Prince of the Skies portrays the incredible feats of three great friends who changed the history of aviation and also pays homage to the author of *The Little Prince*, an unforgettable writer who saw the world through a child's eyes.

THEMES

ADVENTURES REAL LIFE STORIES SAINT-EXUPÉRY
FRENCH AVIATION UNCONDITIONAL FRIENDSHIP ROMANCE

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Antoine de Saint-Exupéry:** from a noble family in decline. He is a shy man who may be extroverted at times. He will become a pilot and a writer, unable to differentiate one thing from the other.
- **Jean Mermoz:** one of the great legends of French aviation. An athletic, strong, attractive man who never walks away from a fight if he considers it fair.
- **Henri Guillaumet:** an exquisite pilot and a mild-mannered person, he is another legend of French aviation. His plane crash in the Andes in winter and his survival thanks to his perseverance.
- **Louise de Vilmorin, "Lulu":** she is first Saint-Exupéry's girlfriend and then marries several times and becomes the lover of great intellectuals such as André Malraux.

- **Didier Daurat:** Aéropostale's director of operations. He is a strict man who rigorously enforces the rules to save the lives of his pilots.

SYNOPSIS

1920s France. These are the early years of civil aviation, aircraft's have not yet been perfected, pilots risk their lives every time they go up and anyone who passes a test and manages to take off and land successfully is given a job at the French airline Latécoère to help deliver the mail. Mr Daurat, who runs the lines from Toulouse, smokes pensively as he evaluates prospective candidates.

Among the new recruits are Jean Mermoz, an intrepid, passionate pilot; Henri Guillaumet, an impeccable flier with a noble spirit and Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, Tonio, a down on his luck aristocrat, dreamer and daredevil. The three men will become friends and heroic adventurers who pioneer new routes across Africa, explore unknown areas of South America and even achieve feats such as the first nocturnal flight and first crossings of the Atlantic Ocean and the Andes. For them, no distance is too far and no mountain too high. Up there, they are afraid of nothing, they never hesitate and they have just one objective: to make sure that their postal sacks get to their destination.

In the midst of his adventures, Antoine also begins to weave a children's story that is destined to touch the lives of millions of readers around the world. A story called *The Little Prince*...Fame and fortune may have

finally found Antoine, but as the shadow of the WWII begins to threaten Europe, he's left to wonder whether his greatest adventure is yet to come...

TRANSLATIONS: ENGLISH, BULGARIAN, CZECH, FRENCH, LITHUANIAN, PORTUGUESE, ROMANIAN, RUSSIAN, TURKISH.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Antonio Iturbe has worked as a cultural journalist, writer and professor. Currently, he is the director of the literary magazine *Librújula*. In 2012, Planeta published *The Librarian of Auschwitz* inspired by the life of Dita Kraus, a survivor of Auschwitz, interviewed by him. This book is now an international best-seller that has been translated into 31 languages. Antonio Iturbe is also the author of *The Prince of the Skies*, a novel based on the extraordinary life and mysterious death of Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, author of *The Little Prince*. His last novel, *The Infinite Shore* (Seix Barral, 2021), is an homage to Barcelona and the dock-side neighbourhood of Barceloneta where Antonio Iturbe grew up.

AWARDS

Winner of the 2017 Biblioteca Breve Prize.

REFERENCES



The Last Fly



The Great Waldo Pepper

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- English long synopsis
- English press file
- Complete English translation



THE LEGEND OF THE TWO FEMALE PIRATES

MARÍA VILLA

GENRE: ROMANTIC ADVENTURE | **PLACE:** ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, PUERTO RICO | **TIME:** 1579-1580

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

London, 1579. Two young aristocrats—the future countess Ines Braukings and the illegitimate princess Victoria Dudley—rebel against the life they were born into and run away in search of freedom. To flee the golden cage the future holds in store for them, they embark on the *Miguel*, a pirate ship captained by the wise but cold Miguel Saavedra, personal friend of Queen Elizabeth, who suspects nothing of his criminal activities. When things get complicated between the captain and his crew, Ines and Victoria decide, with the help of the lethal and audacious Shatidje, to sail their own ship and set forth on their own adventures.

THEMES

FEMALE-DRIVEN FICTION FEMINIST TAKES ON OLD TROPES
ADVENTURES & JOURNEYS PIRATES & GALLEONS SISTERHOOD

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Victoria Dudley:** Illegitimate daughter of Queen Elizabeth I. She decides to run away and find adventure with her friend Ines. Miguel will teach her everything about seafaring and she will end up being the captain of the *Black Shadow*.
- **Ines Braukings:** Future countess of Frieson and Victoria's best friend. She is the first officer of the *Black Shadow*. She's in love with Fred Stowe. She repels men who kill, and she is only a pirate because her sense of friendship stands above all else.
- **Miguel Saavedra:** He becomes a pirate to avenge his father. Captain of *the Miguel* and protégé of Queen Elizabeth I, who doesn't know he's a pirate. He's in love with Victoria, but his vanity keeps him from admitting it.
- **Fred Stowe:** Attractive quartermaster. He's goodhearted and everyone respects him. He's in love with Ines.
- **Shatidje:** Quartermaster. She had a difficult childhood and became Ines's close friend.

SYNOPSIS

Saavedra, handsome captain of the *Miguel* ship, leads a double life. Officially, he is a loyal vassal of England; in reality, he's a bloodthirsty pirate who hates the English and seeks to avenge his father's death. When he arrives in the port of London to meet Queen Elizabeth I, who takes him under her protection, he knows he must avoid his worst enemy, Sigfried Braukings, Admiral of the Navy, who is certain that he is a pirate. Ines, Braukings's daughter, and her best friend, Victoria, illegitimate daughter of the queen, hatch a plan to unmask him, and Saavedra ends up confessing. The girls decide to force the pirate to flee to Spain on the *Miguel* so they can leave behind the burdens of their aristocratic lives.

During the journey, thanks to the quartermaster Fred Stowe, Ines learns to run a crew. The two fall madly in love and, after Fred learns that Ines is his enemy's daughter, she loses her virginity to him. In the meantime, Miguel is teaching Victoria everything he knows about sailing and she also falls in love with him. However, he makes it clear that the interest is not mutual. Since the captain is forbidden to enter Spain, after two months of adventures and romance, he drops them in the port of Burnmouth, Scotland.

There, Robert Walcott, Ines's fiancé, arrests Saavedra by order of the queen, who is desperate to find her daughter. He lies to the queen to restore her trust in him and she asks him to find Victoria.

The girls abort their plan to go to Spain and opt to become pirates. They meet Shatidje, daughter of a pirate, buy the ship *Wakes' Goddess* and hire men for the crew. However, they mutiny and the women put an end to this rebellion in a baptism of blood, but the ship sinks. Without losing heart, they buy the *Crazy Swell* and the women engage in their first boardings, but another ship attacks their vessel and sinks it. Then, they steal the caravel *Black Shadow* and dye its sails black to attack at night. They achieve several victories without being captured and the reputation of the *Black Shadow* extends across the English coasts. The queen offers a reward for the heads of the pirates, not realizing that her daughter is among them.

The women decide to attack an English ship and steal its treasures from the New World. The operation is a success, but Walcott and Braukings realize the *Black* is led by Victoria and Ines. They tell the queen, who orders Saavedra to find them. Not wanting to lose her favor, Miguel has no choice. After hunting down all of them but Shatidje—who manages to escape—the pirates lock up Victoria, take Ines to her parents, and escape from the Armada. Then they salvage the *Black Shadow* and, when Saavedra admits that he loves Victoria, his crew helps sink the three galleons chasing them so the both of them can sail to America to live new adventures.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

María Vila studied law and economics, holds a master's in banking and finance, and is a member of the European Financial Planning Association. She currently teaches Language and Literature to secondary school students. She wrote her first novel, *Pirates*, at fourteen years of age. At fifteen, she wrote *No One*, a fantasy novel published in 2001. In 2002, she won a literary prize with the story *At Night*, and that same year she won the Ninth J. L. Castillo-Puche Award for the short novel *The Train*.

REFERENCES



Black Sails



Thelma & Louise

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- English long synopsis
- English sample
- Spanish press file



THE LIBRARY OF FIRE

MARÍA ZARAGOZA

GENRE: UPMARKET WOMEN'S FICTION | **PLACE:** MADRID | **TIME:** 1930-1940

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

When Tina moves to Madrid at the start of the 1930s to study, her goal is not only to get a position as a library assistant, but also to become a member of the Invisible Library, a secret organization devoted to rescuing books threaten by censorship and traffickers. Tina will find her way in, and she will also get befriended with Veva, whom she will forge an indestructible friendship, even though the war is looming in the distance, posing a major test to the strength of the Invisible Library, and also to the limits of Tina.

THEMES

BANNED BOOKS

SECRET SOCIETY

ATMOSPHERIC

UNCONDITIONAL FEMALE FRIENDSHIP

FORBIDDEN LOVE

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Tina:** She comes from a well-bred family from the provinces and lands in Madrid during the early 1930s to study her major in Philosophy and Letters.
- **Veva:** book lover and Tina's best friend. She comes from a well-off family, but acts more freely than Tina.
- **Carlos:** Young Medical student of humble background that will make Tina melt.
- **Felipe:** Tina's childhood friend. Both their families have decided to arrange their wedding.
- **Lolita:** Tina's auntie, but also the woman she looks up to because she is bold and free.
- **"Fast Little Star":** She is a singer of folk cuplés. She is of anarchist ideology and friends of Tina and Veva.
- **"Moonbeam":** Mysterious nickname of the book saviour who recruits Tina and Veva for his secret society.
- **"Count-Duke":** A even more mysterious and attractive book thief. Tina's main enemy.

SYNOPSIS

It is 1930 and Tina Vallejo travels to Madrid to study her major in Philosophy and Letters and become a librarian. While in college, she meets a young woman called Veva, who smokes, wears trousers and introduces her to the most bohemian Madrid, where they will become like two peas in a pot. Together they decide to try to join the Invisible Library, a secret organization devoted to rescuing books, which Tina learned about from Lolita, her auntie.

Getting into the organization is far from easy, but nonetheless they both manage to do it, to become, over the years, an essential part of its structure. The leader of the Invisible Library is a man that calls himself Moonbeam, and whose nemesis is someone called Count Duke, a bibliophile searching for the same books they are looking for, although he won't try to rescue them but resell them and get rich. The political turbulence of the era will trigger chaos at the expense of many books, so Veva and Tina will have to do their best to keep saving them.

The outbreak of the Civil War makes everything more difficult, and catches Tina and Veva by surprise, while they are on opposite sides of the battle. The conflict will hamper their communication for three years. Alone in Madrid, Tina keeps going with her daily fight, she falls

in love with Carlos —a Republican doctor—, suffers from hunger, sees death and destruction everywhere, and does her best not to lose her mind, all the while receiving contradictory news about the fate of Veva and Lolita, both at the other side of the front.

The end of the war won't bring the end of their problems. Veva goes back to Madrid, but she seems to have remained on the side of the victors. Rayo de Luna has passed away, and Carlos seems also to be sentenced to an inescapable death. Luckily, Tina manages to locate the whereabouts of Rayo de Luna's secret book depository, and empties it just before Conde Duque tracks it down, and finds himself buried in its rubble.

With the rebels now in control, Tina finds out that Veva has been pretending to be on their side to prevent the burning of valuable books, and to find out the whereabouts of Lolita, who has not survived the war. With her friend by her side, and with Carlos having adopted a new identity to save his life, Tina finds herself capable of enduring whatever has to come.

TRANSLATIONS: BULGARIAN, ITALIAN, RUSSIAN.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

María Zaragoza is a storyteller and screenwriter. She has published a dozen books, including novels, comic books and collections of short stories, winning the Ateneo Joven de Sevilla and Ateneo de Valladolid prizes, among others. Her short stories have been included in a number of anthologies and literary publications. Zaragoza also won a scholarship to be part of the third promotion of students of the Antonio Gala Foundation, a residency program devoted to young artists. In 2011 the Institute of Women of the City Council of Castilla La Mancha distinguished her work supporting gender equality. Her play *Realities of Smoke* was adapted to cinema by the Mexican director Joaquín Loustaunau, and in 2019 she received the XXVII Margaritu Xirgu award for Radio Plays, thanks to her piece *A Candidate for the End of the World*.

AWARDS

Winner of the 2022 Azorín Prize.

REFERENCES



Babylon Berlin



The Ninth Gate

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- English long synopsis
- English press file
- English sample



LAST DAYS IN BERLIN

PALOMA SÁNCHEZ-GARNICA

GENRE: HISTORICAL DRAMA | **PLACE:** BERLIN, MADRID, ST. PETERSBURG, KOLIMA (SIBERIA), BERNE | **TIME:** 1921 (ST. PETERSBURG), 1933 - 1945 (BERLIN AND MOSCOW)

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

As a child, Yuri Santacruz flees Russia after the Bolshevik revolution, but he not only leaves behind his roots, but also his mother and his brother Kolia. Obsessed with meeting them again, in 1933 he gets a job at the Spanish embassy in Berlin. While he tries to get a visa to go to Russia, Yuri faces the obstacles that represent the rise of Nazism. At the same time, he falls in love with two women: Claudia Kahler, the wife of an SS officer, and gynaecologist Dr. Krista Metzger. Just when World War II explodes, Yuri manages to travel to Moscow and is reunited with his family. The Stalinist regime then sentences him to death, but he manages to return to Berlin to reunite with Krista, who is about to die after suffering a violent robbery. She finally gives him her blessing to live freely with Claudia and her two children. A little time later, they start a new life in Switzerland after inheriting a fortune from an old friend.

THEMES

WWII

FORBIDDEN LOVE STORY

NAZISM

SURVIVAL

ESPIONAGE

STALINISM PERSECUTION

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Yuri Santacruz:** Young Russian of Spanish ascendancy. He is a brave, passionate man, who doesn't hesitate to take risks to preserve his convictions.
- **Claudia Kahler:** Yuri's lover and Ulrich's wife. She is at ease with Nazism, but she will open her mind after falling in love with Yuri.
- **Krista Metzger:** A doctor who starts a relationship with Yuri. She will become another victim of the Nazi
- **Ulrich von Schönberg:** Himmler's assistant and Claudia's husband. He is violent and unfaithful to his wife. He is executed by the Russian armed forces.
- **Erich Villanueva:** Spanish ambassador in Germany who acts as Yuri's mentor. He disappears after being reported for his homosexuality.

- **Axel Laufer:** fervent communist. Yuri defends him from the abuse of Hitler's storm troopers. Some years later, Axel will help Yuri to escape from Kolima.

SYNOPSIS

When Yuri Santacruz attended Adolf's Hitler appointment as chancellor he could hardly imagine how much his life in Berlin was about to change. He had just landed there a few months before the event, after a hectic and painful flee from Saint Petersburg along with part of his family, choked by a revolution that had left them with nothing. The Revolution also severed Yuri's bond with her mother and his little brother: the Russian authorities would impede them to leave the country. This is a memory that will forever haunt Yuri, who would never give up his hopes of reuniting with them.

Once in Berlin, where Nazism is starting to take over German politics, Yuri will show his understanding of what justice is, while trying to help and defend a young Communist from the abuse of Hitler's storm troopers. On that same day, Yuri will also meet the love of his life, Claudia, a young member of the Nazi party that has just married an SS commander. After this unpleasant event, and the shock of meeting Claudia, his comfortable life will take an unexpected turn. What had been his main priority until that point; that is, to find his mum and little brother, will be replaced by a more urgent one in such a tumultuous period: his own survival. Nazism will become increasingly suffocating for Yuri and his whereabouts, as will the outbreak of the

Second World War and all its inherent consequences.

However, this won't be the only obstacle that Yuri will have to confront in order to survive. While he has to deal with the terrifying Nazi manhunt, Yuri will also witness and suffer the dehumanisation of another ruthless and cruel political regime in Russia, his homeland, where Stalinism is bending the will of all its habitants, including his own family.

TRANSLATIONS: CZECH, PORTUGUESE, ROMANIAN, ITALIAN, POLISH.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Paloma Sánchez-Garnica is the author of *The Great Arcane* (2006), and *The Easter Breeze* (2009). Her novel *The Soul of the Stones* (2010) became a major success among Spanish readers. Then, *The Three Wounds* (2012) and, above all *Silence Sonata* (2014), that would be turned into a TV show, established her as a highly acclaimed author, both among readers and critics, due to her great literary personality. *Memory and Oblivion* (2016), of which five editions have been already published and which has been translated into English, was awarded with the 2016 Fernando Lara prize. Her penultimate novel, *Sophia's Suspicion* (2019), has already been reprinted 19th times, and is the ultimate proof of how hugely successful Paloma's literary career has become.

AWARDS

Finalist of the 2021 Planeta Prize.

REFERENCES



Generation War



Doctor Zhivago

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- English press file
- English sample

MORE THAN
50,000 COPIES SOLD
IN SPAIN

MORE THAN
650,000 COPIES SOLD
INTERNATIONALLY



THE LIBRARIAN OF AUSCHWITZ

ANTONIO ITURBE

GENRE: HISTORICAL NOVEL | **PLACE:** PRAGUE & AUSCHWITZ | **TIME:** 1940

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

Dita was 14 in 1940, when she and her parents were moved from the camp of Terezin near Prague into the hell of the Auschwitz camp. Jew prisoners not being allowed to entertain in any way, much less to enjoy any form of culture, books are strictly forbidden under death penalty. A rebel, brave, young man, Freddy Hirsch, has managed to hide 8 books from the Nazis. These 8 books are the prisoner's biggest treasure. In order to keep the secret from the Nazis and, at the same time, make the books meaningful by allowing them to circulate and be read, a highly responsible, careful, witty and daring person is required. Dita meets all these requirements, but of course, she is also a teenager, and life, love, insecurities and fear might get in the way...the only problem being, in Auschwitz, the tiniest error may cost lives.

THEMES

COMING-OF-AGE | HOLOCAUST | REAL LIFE STORIES
LOVE FOR BOOKS | BRAVE YOUNG GIRL AS PROTAGONIST

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Dita Adlerova:** inspired in Dita Kraus. She is a fourteen-year-old girl imprisoned in Auschwitz.
- **Freddy Hirsch:** Based also on a real person. A German Jewish athlete, sports teacher and Zionist youth movement leader, notable for helping thousands of Jewish children during the German occupation of Prague. He is the supervisor of the children's block 31 at Auschwitz where he meets Dita.
- **Rudi Rosenberg:** A prisoner in Auschwitz, appointed by the nazis to control other prisoners, who fall in love with an intern of block 31, Alice Munk.
- **Viktor Pestek:** an SS guard who fell in love with a young Jewish girl and risked his life to help her escape.
- **Otto Kraus:** Young man imprisoned in Auschwitz. He will survive and marry Dita.

SYNOPSIS

This novel is based on the real-life story of Dita Poláčková, a 14-year-old Czech girl imprisoned by the Nazis at Auschwitz. Deported, along with her mother and father, to the camp of Terezin, ending up in the ill-famed labour camp of Auschwitz, Dita is adjusting herself to the constant terror to be experienced in the camp on daily basis.

Unreal as it may sound, the Nazis meant Auschwitz to be an image-cleaner for them internationally. They intended to cover up the massacres and make it appear as a place where kids were actually taken care of. There was even a school, Block 31. A fake school, where Jewish children were denied any chance of learning or entertaining. The supervisor of the school is young man Freddy Hirsch, a reknown German athlete, a leader for the young prisoners, a figure to look up to. Freddy has managed to conceal 8 books from the Nazis. When Freddy asks Dita to take charge of the eight precious volumes the prisoners have managed to sneak past the guards, she naturally agrees. And so Dita becomes the secret librarian of Auschwitz, responsible for the safekeeping of the small collection of titles, as well as the 'living books'- prisoners of Auschwitz who know certain books so well, they too can be 'borrowed' to educate the children in the camp.

Books are extremely dangerous. They make people think. And nowhere are they more dangerous than in Block 31 of Auschwitz, the children's block, where the slightest transgression can result in execution, no matter how young the transgressor is.

Dita hides, takes care and shares the frail volumes of the smallest and more clandestine public library that has never existed.

As Dita is going to learn, being a teenager and leading a clandestine life in Auschwitz can be extremely dangerous, as she crossed her path with other clandestine young love stories, jealousy, and, most important of all, Freddy's hidden secret...

Dita survived to Holocaust and married another survivor, Otto Kraus. Antonio Iturbe interviewed Dita and wrote her story.

TRANSLATIONS: 31 LANGUAGES! ITALIAN, ENGLISH, DUTCH, GERMAN, PORTUGUESE, FRENCH, CZECH, SWEDISH, FINNISH, DANISH, ROMANIAN, SERBIAN, CHINESE, JAPANESE, RUSSIAN, POLISH, THAI, HUNGARIAN, KOREAN, GREEK, LITHUANIAN, BULGARIAN, HEBREW, SLOVENIAN, UKRAINIAN, TAIWANESE, SLOVAKIAN, ALBANIAN, MACEDONIAN, BRAZILIAN, TURKISH.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Antonio Iturbe has worked as a cultural journalist, writer and professor. Currently, he is the director of the literary magazine *Librújula*. In 2012, Planeta published *The Librarian of Auschwitz* inspired by the life of Dita Kraus, a survivor of Auschwitz, interviewed by him. This book is now an international best-seller that has been translated into 31 languages. Antonio Iturbe is also the author of *The Prince of the Skies*, a novel based on the extraordinary life and mysterious death of Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, author of *The Little Prince*. His last novel, *The Infinite Shore* (Seix Barral, 2021), is an homage to Barcelona and the dock-side neighbourhood of Barceloneta where Antonio Iturbe grew up.

REFERENCES



The Book Thief



The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- Spanish press file
- Complete English translation



RETURN TO CANFRANC

ROSARIO RARO

GENRE: HISTORICAL & ADVENTURE NOVEL | **PLACE:** CANFRANC (SPANISH PYRENEES) |
TIME: 1934-1944

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

March 1943. Crouched in a hidden room, several people are holding their breath as they wait for the sound of the steel-tipped boots of the German soldiers to move off into the distance. At the international station of Canfranc, in the Pyrenees, the swastika flies over the railway. In the darkness, Laurent Juste, the head of Customs Service, Jana Belerma, the hotel waitress and the bandit Esteve Durandarte risk their lives to keep it free.

THEMES

BASED ON TRUE EVENTS ESPIONAGE WWII
INTRIGUE SECRET LOVE STORY REFUGEE CRISIS

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Jana Belerma** (24): Chambermaid in the luxury hotel located on the station. She counterfeits identity documents for Jews who try to illegally cross the border. She is absolutely fascinated by Durandarte.
- **Esteve Durandarte** (35): He seems to be a smuggler, but the truth is that he works for the Allies. Some think he is the lover of the beautiful wife of the Gervasio Casanarbone.
- **Laurent Juste** (45): Breton, head of the Customs Service in Canfranc. He is married to Arlette and has three children. His character on Albert Le Lay, a war hero who saved many lives.
- **Eberhard Gröber**: cruel Nazi. He enjoys art and women's company. His mission in Canfranc is detaining and deporting all the Jews found in this small passage of the Pyrenees.
- **Gervasio Casanarbone**: hateful Civil Governor. His excesses lead him to ruin.

SYNOPSIS

March, 1943. A group of people of different ages and conditions move stealthily under cover of the early morning shadows. No one makes the slightest noise. They are Jews who, like others before them, try to cross the border clandestinely through the Canfranc international station, taken over by the Nazis.

This risky operation is led by Laurent Juste, the head of the international customs office. Behind his façade as a "neutral" man between sides, Laurent hides a brave member of the Resistance who is saving, at the risk of his own life and that of his family, many fugitives from the Nazi regime. He has set up the most ingenious strategies, such as the mysterious power outages that he causes and that he then justifies with a good excuse. The support network is completed by Jana, a young waitress at the International Hotel; Montlum, violinist and magician; Esteve Durandarte, a smuggler, about whom all kinds of rumors circulate, especially that of his being the lover of the wife of the hateful Gervasio Casanarbone; Didier, track worker; the young Valentina; Dr. Mallén, who provides medical assistance to refugees; and the owners of the village's bar.

Jana leads the refugees from their hiding place to a small secret space where they must remain until they are assigned their new identities and destinations.

However, Dagmar and her little daughter refuse to leave. Dagmar is convinced that her husband, held in Germany by the Nazis, managed to escape to France, and she doesn't want to leave without him. Moved, Jana breaks the rule and gives them a week's notice.

During these days, Eberhard Gröber, a Nazi high command, arrives in Canfranc. Laurent is aware of the risk involved in maintaining their operations. But, against all odds, they decide to help a group of new people, including Josephine Baker. The famous star has refused to cross the border incognito. She will do so by attracting attention and summoning the press, to distract attention and make possible the escape of hundreds of people that are hidden in its voluminous luggage of several wagons. The operation is a success and, in the midst of these circumstances, a love story arises between Jana and Esteve.

Few months later, a coded message alerts Laurent that the Gestapo has discovered his activities, so he flees with his family. In his absence, Jana is in charge of the operations.

At the end of the WWII, the courageous performance of the members of the group who risked their lives to save thousands of people is finally rewarded.

TRANSLATIONS: FRENCH.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Rosario Raro was one of the only Spanish finalists in the Virtuality Caza de letras writing competition run by UNAM and Alfaguara in Mexico (2009). She is the author of several works, including *The Imprint of a Letter*, *Vanished in Siboney*, *Return to Canfranc* and *The Sky over Canfranc*.

REFERENCES



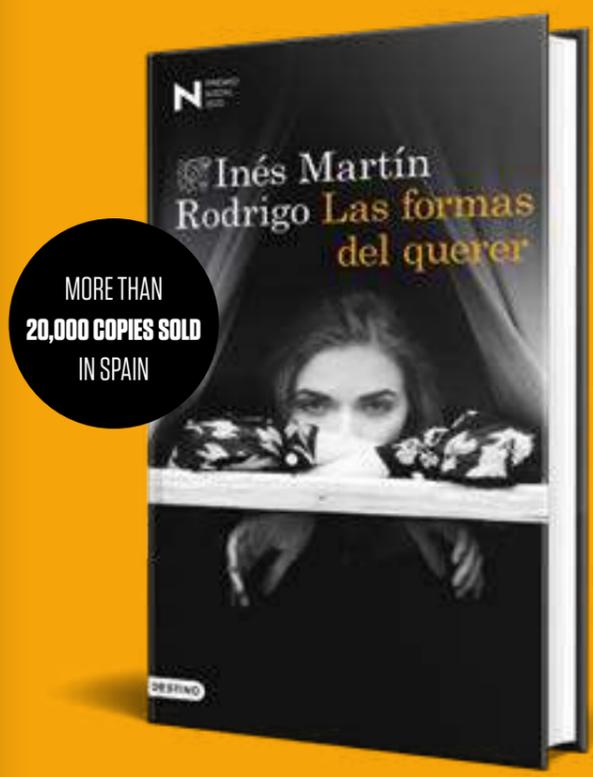
Schindler's List



Suite Française

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- English press file
- Complete French translation



THE SHAPES OF LOVE

INÉS MARTÍN RODRIGO

GENRE: HISTORICAL / ROMANCE NOVEL | **PLACE:** MADRID, VALENCIA, THE BASQUE COUNTRY, A SMALL VILLAGE IN THE SPANISH COUNTRYSIDE | **TIME:** 1936-2000

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

When life comes to a sudden halt, it's time to reflect and remember. That's how Noray feels after she helped her grandparents Carmen and Tomás to die with dignity. After their funeral, unable to cope with this secret and the absence of those who taught her the many forms of love, she holes up in the small-town family home where she grew up and was happy. There she takes refuge in words and decides to finally write the novel she's been putting off for years: the story of her family, linked to that of a country too afraid to confront the past—from the civil war to democracy. Through writing, Noray evokes the lives of those who made hers possible. Across their stories, she navigates love in all its possible forms (passionate, romantic, forbidden, impossible, unconditional, platonic...) and deals with her worst fears in her quest to learn to love herself and figure out who she really is.

THEMES

- EUTHANASIA
- THREE GENERATIONS OF WOMEN
- MOURNING
- FAMILY MEMORIES
- DOMESTIC DRAMA
- EATING DISORDERS

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Noray:** Intelligent and charismatic woman, but also sensitive and fragile. She has suffered a lot during childhood and adolescence, so she develops an eating disorder. Her insecurities lead her to boycott her relationship with Ismael, whom she really loves.
- **Ismael:** A withdrawn young man who has just married Estrella, a woman he doesn't love. He can never forget Noray.
- **Carmen:** Noray's grandmother. She aspires to be something more than a mother, wife and housewife. She passes through a depression, but she bounces back and surrounds herself with strong women who help her accomplish her goals.
- **Tomás:** Noray's grandfather. A man loyal to his family and friends. He has conservative convictions but he sacrifices what he has to defend those he loves.
- **Trini:** Carmen's neighbor. She has a close friendship with the wife of the mayor which turns into an affair.

SYNOPSIS

Soon after the death of her grandparents, Noray seeks the support of Ismael, an old boyfriend she has never forgotten. He's never lived down the relationship either; trapped in a loveless marriage. He comes to her aid, but Noray attempts suicide. As she lies unconscious in the hospital bed, Ismael finds a notebook in which Noray's written the story of her grandparents, Tomás and Carmen, whom Noray was always very close to.

The story begins with Tomás and his brother Sixto, who had to quit school and work the fields not long after their father enlisted in the military and disappeared. During the Spanish Civil War, the two brothers separate and end up fighting on opposite sides. When the war ends, Tomás returns to his village and meets Carmen, the daughter of the mayor's maid, from a humble family. It's love at first sight, and they decide to marry despite their families' objections.

One night Carmen's mother shows up covered in blood, abused by the mayor, and the couple leaves the village. They arrive to Madrid: a new stage that is overshadowed by their inability to have children. Tomás decides to join the police force.

Starting then, the couple moves through several cities and makes contact with people who will be part of their lives forever, such as Filomena, who helps Carmen

study and opens the doors to the worlds of literature and feminism; Paco, the lieutenant who becomes a close friend of Tomás and who will lend them a hand whenever needed until ETA murders him; loyal and tenacious Trini; and Sixto, Tomás's brother, whom they finally meet again. The arrival of their daughter Olivia, Noray's mother, takes them back Madrid.

Olivia marries, and Noray is born a few months later. The girl has a happy childhood until her paternal grandfather, Eugenio, collapses and dies at her side. Noray becomes fragile, always struggling with her feelings through her relationship to food. In her teenage years, she suffers from anorexia and winds up in the hospital. This is when she meets Ismael, whom she shares a sweet but tormented relationship. They love each other, but her insecurities get in the way and she winds up leaving him.

Carmen and Tomás are her rock and she takes refuge with them whenever she can. When Carmen falls gravely ill and Tomás asks Noray to help them die together with dignity, she agrees, and attempts suicide herself soon after.

Noray's tale ends here. She wakes up and asks Ismael forgiveness. He confesses he still loves her. The novel ends with a call from his wife, telling Ismael she's pregnant.

TRANSLATIONS: SERBIAN.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Inés Martín Rodrigo is a journalist and author. Since 2008, she's worked for the culture pages of ABC and is considered one of the most important cultural journalists in the country. She is the author of the biographical novel *The Hours Are Blue* (2016), the volume of interviews with women writers *A Shared Room* (2020), and the children's book *Giselle*, based on the ballet. She has written the prologues to works by David Foster Wallace, Virginia Woolf, and Carmen Laforet, among others. In 2019, she was selected by the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development (AECID) in its 10 of 30 program, which recognizes the best writers under forty. Her novel *The Shapes of Love* won the 2022 Nadal Prize.

AWARDS

Winner of the 2022 Nadal Prize.

REFERENCES



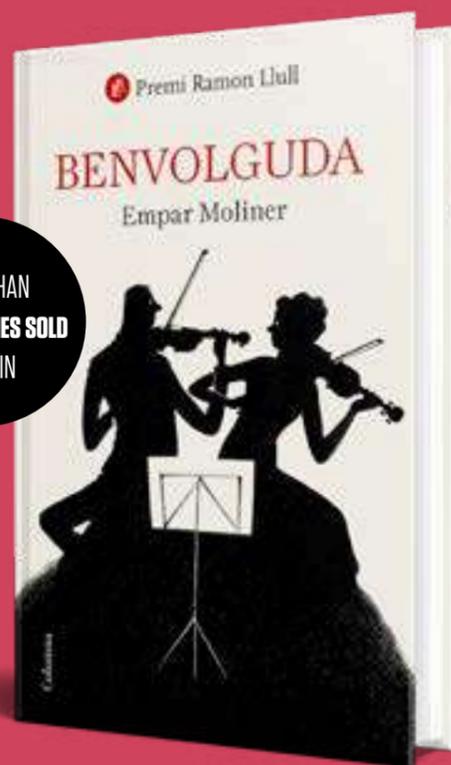
Alcarràs



The Tree of Blood

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- Spanish press file
- Spanish long synopsis
- English sample



MORE THAN
20,000 COPIES SOLD
IN SPAIN

BELOVED

EMPAR MOLINER

GENRE: TRAGICOMEDY | **PLACE:** BARCELONA AND A NEARBY VILLAGE | **TIME:** PRESENT

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

Remedios Durán, a fifty-year-old artist, has the premonition that her husband, Óscar, a violinist ten years younger than her, will fall in love with Cristina, a younger violinist. She chalks up this clairvoyance to menopause and is calm in the face of the disaster.

Cristina will insinuate herself into the couple's life until she winds up moving into their house to practice with Óscar. All the while, Remedios will reflect on her childhood as a ward of the state, her prior marriages, her infidelities, and her waning desire.

On Saint George's Day, Remedios will throw a party that will end in a three-way between herself, her husband, and Cristina.

THEMES

MENOPAUSE LOVE TRIANGLE INFIDELITY
MIDDLE LIFE CRISIS FEMALE AGING HUMOUR

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Remedios Durán:** a middle-aged artist. An intelligent, desirable, mordant woman with a great sense of humor. She likes to drink.
- **Óscar:** Remedios' husband, a violinist in his early forties. He is second chair in an orchestra and a heavy drinker.
- **Angélica:** Remedios and Óscar's daughter. A witty teenager who adores her mother.
- **Cristina:** Óscar's young lover. A backup violinist. Her hair is dyed pink and her arms are covered in tattoos. Innocent, pleasing, intelligent.
- **Dani:** Father of a child in Angélica's class and gym instructor. He goes running with Remedios and Gretchen. He has slept with many women.
- **Gretchen:** Mother of a child in Angélica's class. A German living in Barcelona. She had cancer and her ovaries were removed.
- **Francina:** Mother of one of Angélica's classmates. Lesbian, sporty, and fire fighter.

SYNOPSIS

Remedios Durán, an artist in her fifties, has a premonition that her husband, Óscar will fall in love with Cristina, a substitute violinist who is not yet thirty. She attributes her clairvoyance to menopause and is calm in the face of the impending tragedy.

Óscar and Cristina are constantly rehearsing at the couple's house, and the young woman insinuates herself into the family life of Remedios, her husband, and their eleven-year-old daughter Angélica. As she watches Oscar fall in love with Cristina, Remedios reflects on their relationship, which has evolved from passion to placid comfort. She also thinks about how she, an inveterate cheater, has enjoyed the pleasures of fidelity and motherhood.

Remedios takes refuge in her daily runs with a group of mothers and fathers from Angelica's school and reminisces about episodes from her childhood. She grew up on a farm and, as a child, her mother used to force her to masturbate Uncle Ventura, who had been crippled after the war, to calm him down. After the death of Remedios's mother and the disappearance of her father, she and her brother were placed in child welfare. There, she was happy.

When she left the center, she met her first husband, a concert promoter and ladies' man who paid for

her fine arts studies. She left him for a successful comic artist. Remedios was unfaithful to all of them. Later, Remedios agreed to illustrate a book of lists that became a best seller. From that moment on, her fellow illustrators disdained her for selling out. As she undergoes the symptoms of menopause, she makes it easier for Óscar and Cristina to get closer, but, at the same time she feels the contradictions of feeling older and less desirable.

On day, after signing copies of her latest book, Remedios throws a party at her house. She invites parents from school, colleagues from the newspaper where she draws, her two ex-husbands and, of course, Cristina, who has moved in with them because her neighbors won't let her rehearse in her own apartment.

After drinking themselves into a stupor, Remedios, Óscar, and Cristina find themselves alone. Remedios offers them ecstasy, but only Óscar is willing to take some, and his wife decides they should have a threesome. When it's over, Óscar falls asleep in the garden and Remedios, for the first time, cheats on him with her neighbor who works as a writer. Although her husband proposes another threesome, Remedios declines the offer, but Cristina goes to bed with him and becomes his lover.

TRANSLATIONS: ENGLISH.

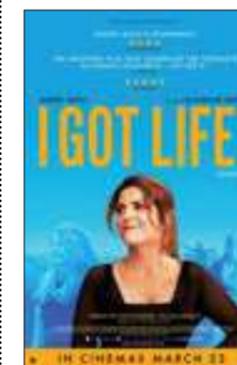
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Empar Moliner became known with the collection of short stories *The Apartment Agent Who Hated Mimes*, followed by the novel *Feli, esthéticienne*, which won the 2000 Josep Pla prize. She later published the volumes of short stories *I Love You if I'm Drinking*, winner of the 2005 Lletra d'Or Prize and adapted successfully for the stage by David Selvas, and *There Are No Third Persons*, along with the anthologies of articles *Seeking a Man For Friendship and Whatever Comes Up* and *Save Changes?* In 2012 she published the novel *The Collaborator*, followed by *Children's Stories Against All Odds*, and in 2015 she won the Mercè Rodoreda Prize with *I Do All This Because I'm So Afraid*. In 2021 she published the book of short stories *We Weren't Always Like This*. Her work appears regularly on television and radio and in the printed press.

AWARDS

Winner of the 2022 Ramon Llul Prize.

REFERENCES



I Got Life!

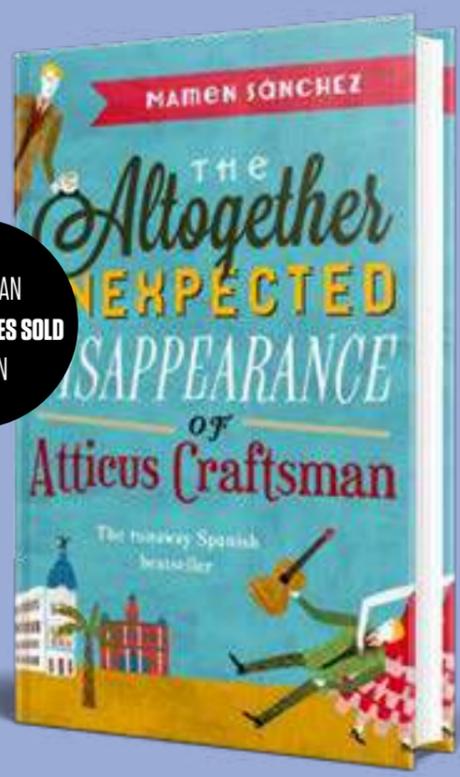


State of the Union

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- Spanish long synopsis
- English sample

MORE THAN 150,000 COPIES SOLD IN SPAIN



THE ALTOGETHER UNEXPECTED DISAPPEARANCE OF ATTICUS CRAFTSMAN

MAMEN SÁNCHEZ

GENRE: SITCOM | **PLACE:** MADRID, GRANADA, ENGLAND | **TIME:** PRESENT

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

The unexpected disappearance of Atticus Craftsman in the heart of deep Spain seems somehow related to the wicked doings of five desperate women, the employees of Free Yourself magazine, who are capable of anything to hold onto their jobs.

Inspector Manchego will be in charge of unraveling a plot in which romantic comedy mingles with tender drama, police intrigue leads to the greatest literary discovery of all time, the difficult turns easy, and problems are drowned in a sea of tears... Tears of laughter.

This surprising novel is a blend of three parts sitcom, one part thriller, and lots of cheekiness. A tender novel with brilliant dialogues, unforgettable characters, and a great deal of sensitivity and humor.

THEMES

- COZY COMEDY
- FEMALE-DRIVEN FICTION
- ROM-COM
- BRILLIANT DIALOGUES
- ARISTOCRATIC FAMILY

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Atticus Craftsman:** The English hero and corpus delicti of the novel. In his thirties, beyond attractive, a connoisseur of the female soul, he is an addict of Earl Gray tea. Heir to the Craftsman publishing empire.
- **Soleá:** The heroin of the novel. She is from Sacromonte in Granada. A woman of character, a journalist by trade, she prefers the street to the office.
- **Berta:** Director of *Free Yourself*, a publication of the British Craftsman Group. A single woman of fiftysomething, with inquisitive and sharply intelligent eyes.
- **María:** An administrator at the journal. Her marriage is on red alert for monotony.
- **Gaby:** A graphic designer at *Free Yourself*. She is married to an Argentine artist. She can't manage to get pregnant and it's starting to obsess her.
- **Asunción:** Editor and documentary filmmaker. She is in her fifties and her husband abandoned her with two children. She's on the border between tubby and obese.

SYNOPSIS

The Unexpected disappearance of Atticus Craftsman in the heart of deep Spain seems somehow related to the wicked doings of five desperate women, the employees of Free Yourself magazine, who are capable of anything to hold onto their jobs.

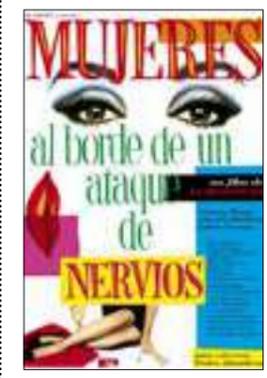
Inspector Manchego will be in charge of unraveling a plot in which romantic comedy mingles with tender drama, police intrigue leads to the greatest literary discovery of all time, the difficult turns easy, and problems are drowned in a sea of tears... Tears of laughter. All this to wind up figuring out—who'd have thought it—that love explains everything.

TRANSLATIONS: ENGLISH, GERMAN, PORTUGUESE, BULGARIAN, POLISH, KOREAN, ITALIAN, FRENCH, SERBIAN, NORWEGIAN, FINNISH.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mamen Sánchez has a degree in Information Sciences from the Universidad Complutense and has taken doctorate courses in Literature and History at the Sorbonne and English Literature at universities in London and Oxford. She is a deputy editor at the magazine *¡Hola!* and editor of *¡Hola! México*. She has published three books for children and the novels *Sunglasses for Rainy Days* (2010), *Water from the Lemon Tree* (2010), *A Ladies Game* (2011), *Happiness is Having a Tea With You* (2013), *Excessive Emotions are Forbidden at the Guesthouse Door* (2014), *Cream of the Crop* (2016), *The Redbrick House* (2018) and *The Riviera* (2020).

REFERENCES



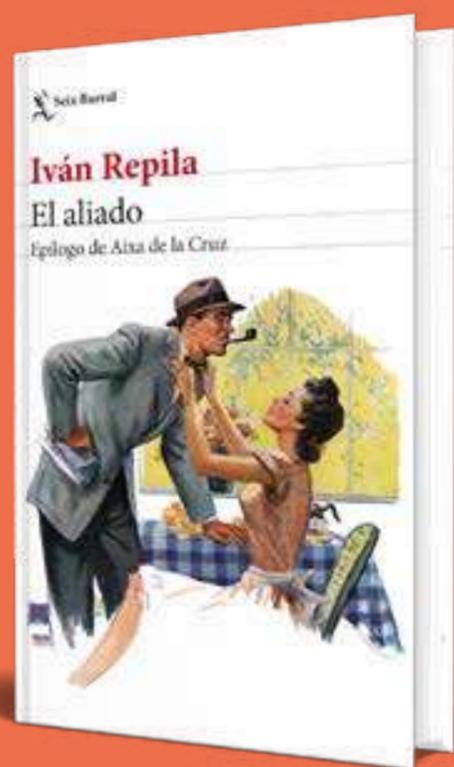
Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown



Four Weddings and a Funeral

MATERIALS

- Complete English translation



THE ALLY

IVÁN REPILA

GENRE: PARODY | **PLACE:** SPAIN | **TIME:** PRESENT - FUTURE (EPILOGUE)

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

Boy meets Girl. Girl is a feminist leader. Boy considers himself feminist and progressive but is starting to realize there's a lot more to do. Boy gets impatient and is in a rush for feminism to triumph. Boy has a simple idea: start a revolution. But to do so, he'll need to turn his number one enemy into his beloved.

THEMES

- SEXISM VS. FEMINISM
- #METOO
- REVOLUTION
- VINDICATION

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Najwa López de la Torre:** Feminist and activist struggling for equality. Girlfriend of the protagonist, she will be the leader of the feminist movement that guides the revolution.
- **I.R.R.:** A man in his thirties in love with his girlfriend, impatient and determined to provoke a revolution.
- **Aixa de la Cruz:** A real writer who makes an "incursion" into the novel as a character and brings the story to an end with an epilogue in the form of an academic article written in a near future that examines the case of I.R.R. and Najwa and in this way reveals what happens afterward.

SYNOPSIS

The protagonist of this novel considers himself "the most feminist dude in the world." When he meets Najwa, an important activist fighting for equal rights, he realizes that there is still much left to be done. Convinced that all social progress has required revolution to be effective, and surprised by how slow and how peaceful the process of gender equality is, he decides to undertake an anonymous campaign of extreme sexism to provoke a radical social change.

From then on, he will lead a double life as head of an anonymous and ferociously sexist violent group called "Phallic State" committed to direct action at numerous levels of society and as the boyfriend of the leader of the feminist movement answering back to the former in the streets. Slowly protests will take place, along with movements like #MeToo, social changes that will be consolidated in the Language Academy, cultural censorship, etc.

The price "the ally" has to pay is becoming the man most hated by the woman he loves. Under the alias "Vergo," he organizes the members of his misogynist group to boycott protests and feminist progress violently, until finally he betrays them to achieve his goal: the triumph of feminism.

For her part, Najwa is leading "The Revolution of the Princesses," fighting for equality and defending against the attacks of their adversaries.

The Ally is a story about a vision: that of a contemporary man who approaches feminism and decides to devote himself to it no matter what the consequences. And at the same time, it is a tragic love story and a call to awareness of our own contradictions.

After an epic finale, author Aixa de la Cruz breaks into the narrative through a false epilogue written in a future in which the Feminist Republic has been declared, offering an academic reading of the past in which she examines the case of the man who decided to start this revolution.

TRANSLATIONS: GERMAN, FRENCH, ENGLISH.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Iván Repila is a writer, editor, and cultural promoter. He has worked for a number of national and international organizations producing, coordinating, and leading conferences, meetings, and festivals in the fields of theater, music, and dance.

He is author of the novels *A Riffraff Comedy* (2012), *Prelude to a War* (2017), and *The Boy Who Stole Attila's Horse* (2013), which was published in Italy, France, the UK, the USA, Korea, Romania, Holland, Japan, and Iran, and adapted for the stage in the United States. His most recent novel is *The Ally* (2020).

REFERENCES



Fight Club



Mr. & Mrs. Smith

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- Complete English, German & French translations
- English long synopsis



MORE THAN
10,000 COPIES SOLD
IN SPAIN

SAFE PLACE

ISAAC ROSA

GENRE: DYSTOPIAN PICARESQUE NOVEL | **PLACE:** A BIG CITY | **TIME:** THE NEAR FUTURE

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

Segismundo García, a modern rogue, tries to take advantage of people's fears for the future with a business selling low-cost bunkers for all budgets. His view of the world is overshadowed by the fate of his father, a businessman who wound up in prison, and the ramblings of his son, Segismundo III, but his cynicism will be put to the test one day when he finds himself surrounded by people who have kept their hope in spite of everything.

THEMES

DYSTOPIA **GRITTY HUMOUR** **PROVOCATIVE**
SOCIAL CRITICISM **FATHER-SON RELATIONSHIP**

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Segismundo García, father:** A middle-aged man on the make whose only interest is finding funding for his low-cost bunker business.
- **Segismundo García, grandfather:** The patriarch of the family. He spent several years in jail for embezzlement in connection with a chain of dental clinics he owned. He is suffering from late-stage dementia.
- **Segis García, son:** He's sixteen years old and attends a private school. He seems to have inherited his father and grandfather's talent for scamming.
- **Yuliana:** Grandfather García's caretaker. The old man's son often encourages her to take him out for fresh air in the hopes that he'll be led to the place where his money is hidden.
- **Mónica:** Segismundo father's ex. She left behind her comfortable life to devote herself to the cause of ecology and a new society.

SYNOPSIS

Segismundo García thinks he has a great business idea: low-cost bunkers, so small they can be set up almost anywhere, as a response to the anxiety of a public shaken by several years of crisis and catastrophes. But his day begins with the news that, though he's committed to building more than a hundred "safe spaces," the bank won't grant him the financing he needs.

This isn't Segismundo's only headache: his son, Segis, has gotten in trouble again at school. Heir to the family's penchant for shady business, he's acting as bookie for several of his classmates. The school principal confiscates the money he's collected, and now he has to convince his partner, who lives in the roughest part of town, that he needs more time to pay him.

If that wasn't enough, Grandfather Segismundo, the patriarch of the family, a man who rose up from the most miserable poverty to make a fortune with a chain of low-cost dental practices, has run away from home with late-stage dementia. Segismundo jr. has placed a device in his watch to track him, and he and his son set off in search of him, hoping the old man is looking for the stash of money he hid before he went to prison, years ago, for embezzlement.

This quest will lead Segismundo and Segis, along with the old man's caregiver, Yuliana, to learn something beyond the desperation and cynicism that are the businessman's cardinal principles: the nature of life among the eco-

communitarians—layabouts, Segismundo calls them—activists in a collectivist movement gathering strength in all the neighborhoods throughout the city.

After a long adventure that takes them through important places in the old man's life, Segismundo discovers aspects of his father's past he never knew of, and the three of them find him at last on a basketball court built over the house where he was born. A group of eco-communitarians gathers there to celebrate a meal in common. The old man takes his son's hand, and though he doesn't recognize him, there's hope in that gesture.

TRANSLATIONS: FRENCH, GERMAN.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Isaac Rosa was born in Seville in 1974. He is the author of the novels *Bad Memory* (later republished as *Another Damned Novel About the Spanish Civil War*, 2007); *Vain Yesterday* (2005), which won the 2005 Rómulo Gallegos Prize, the Ojo Crítico Prize, and the Andalusian Critics' Prize; *The Country of fear* (2008), awarded the J.M. Lara Prize for best novel of the year; *The Invisible Hand* (2011), *The Dark Room* (2013, winner of the Calamo Prize), and *Happy Ending* (2018). All are published by Seix Barral. An opinion columnist, he has also written comics, YA novels, and short story volumes, including *Red Chalk* (Seix Barral, 2020). His work has been translated into several languages and has been the basis for three films.

AWARDS

Winner of the 2022 Biblioteca Breve Prize.

REFERENCES



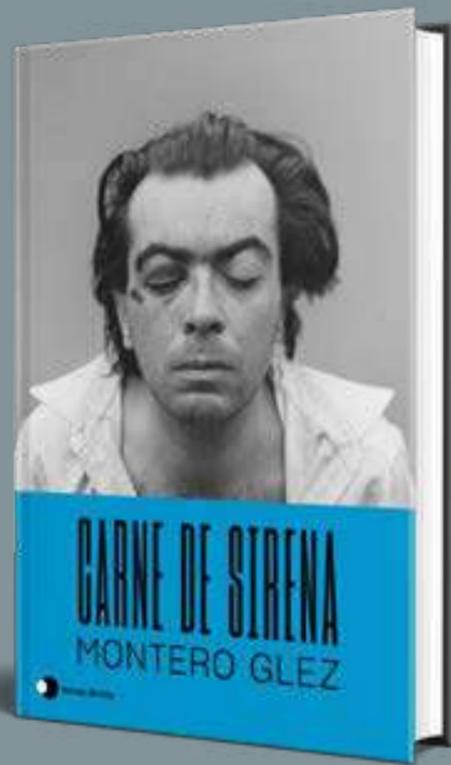
Small Time Crooks



The Good Boss

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- English press file
- Complete English translation
- Spanish long synopsis



MERMAID FLESH

MONTERO GLEZ

GENRE: PSYCHOLOGICAL HORROR | **PLACE:** COASTS OF THE NORTH OF SPAIN | **TIME:** 1980'S

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

Andrés Bouza heads out to sea in his dilapidated boat, only to be met by a harsh storm. Not knowing that he has crossed the line that separates the living from those who have passed, he enters a place where time no longer exists. Washed up on a dark sand beach, he takes refuge in a sinister inn that seems like some sort of purgatory before hell. There he meets three macabre characters who tell him of the world's mysteries, of the women they loved, and of other crooks who have only in common the fact they've been condemned to the sea.

THEMES

DRUG TRAFFICKING | ETERNAL RECURRENCE STORY | CRIME
SUFFOCATING AND SORDID ATMOSPHERE | VIOLENCE

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Andrés Bouza:** a sailor in his 50s. Owner of a ramshackle boat. He is somewhat of a loser who lives off hunting goose and selling their livers to the highest bidder.
- **Penedo:** the red-headed barman in the inn in which Andrés Bouza takes refuge.
- **Antón:** an eyeless priest and patron of Penedo's inn. He is a rather unconventional priest whose downfall is gambling.
- **Enrique Mariño, "El Zopo":** a young, very violent drug trafficker.
- **Manolo Mariño, "El Chiruca":** Zopo's younger brother who suffers from an intellectual disability.
- **"El Viejo":** Zopo's boss, and a drug lord.
- **"La Coruñesa":** a voluptuous, explosive, and lustful woman married to "El Zopo".

SYNOPSIS

Andrés Bouza heads out to sea in his dilapidated boat, with a young man who suffers an intellectual disability. Suddenly they are hit by a harsh storm and Andrés realises that it's unlikely they will make it out alive.

24 hours earlier, Andrés learns of a bank robbery. The robber is known as *El Chiruca*. Afterwards, Andrés takes his boat out. A storm begins and his boat runs aground on a beach. Here, he gets caught up in a group of men unloading packages of cocaine. They point a gun at him and order him to get his boat off the beach. Heading back out, Andrés doesn't realise that he has crossed the line that separates the living from the dead, and that he has entered a place in which time no longer exists.

Andrés spots a beach and decides to enter a solitary inn with a strong sensation of déjà vu. Inside, two old men play *Game of the Goose* and a young guy drinks at the bar with a suitcase at his side: It's *El Chiruca*. The others are the red-headed bar man, Penedo, and Antón, a priest who has two slits where his eyes should be. The latter suggests that Andrés and *Chiruca's* arrival could be a sign, and perhaps there is a deal to be made that suits both of them. While he listens to what seems to be a delirious priest, Andrés scratches his calf on which he has tattooed a name: Eva. He reminisces about the day he started a relationship with her despite the fact that she was married.

In order to convince Andrés about a possible deal, Antón tells him *El Chiruca's* story: His older brother, *El Zopo*,

began working for an important cocaine trafficker and found a new place to hide the merchandise: the secluded island on which the priest lived. So Antón would not see too much, *El Zopo* removed his eyes. Since then, they have been unloading the packages on the beach where lies *La Coruñesa's* tomb, *El Zopo's* wife that he killed in an argument and cut off her head. He asked *El Chiruca* to help him bury her. However, after *El Zopo* slept with *El Chiruca's* lover, he decided to report *La Coruñesa's* murder. Unfortunately for him, *El Zopo* was released and wanted to kill him in an act of revenge. *El Chiruca* sensed *El Zopo's* intentions, robbed a bank to get some cash, and took refuge in the inn.

Antón finally explains what the deal is: Andrés has to take *El Chiruca* to Lisbon in his boat. They will pay him 20,000 euros: half now and half when he returns. Andrés accepts the mission and comes back to the boat. The storm we read of in the prologue breaks out, and a huge wave swallows *El Chiruca*, dragging him out to sea. Seized by an intuition, he opens *El Chiruca's* suitcase. No one ever knew what happened to *La Coruñesa's* head, and Andrés also senses that Eva did not have a happy ending. Despite his worries, it only contains a bronze bell.

Andrés, relieved, decides to go back to the inn, tell them that he has left *El Chiruca* in Lisbon and ask for the rest of the money. However, upon returning he finds that the old men are not alone. With them is *El Chiruca*, who begins to laugh. The blind priest says: "I didn't tell you, he's one that comes back!"

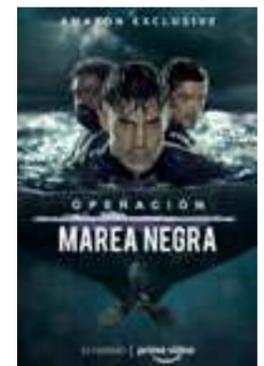
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Montero Glez is the author of the novels *Thirsty for Champagne* (1999), *When the Night Demands* (2003), *Red Lard* (2005) and *Black Powder* (Azorín Award 2008), among others. He also wrote a volume of short stories entitled *Kisses of Fire* (2007). A contributor in various media and under different pseudonyms, he has collected his opinion articles in *Diary of a Fan. How Soccer Is* (2006) and *Summer: The Raw and the Rotten* (2008). His works have been translated into French, Dutch, Italian and Russian, and his unforgettable style has made him a cult writer. Moreover, his career has been recognised with several awards.

REFERENCES



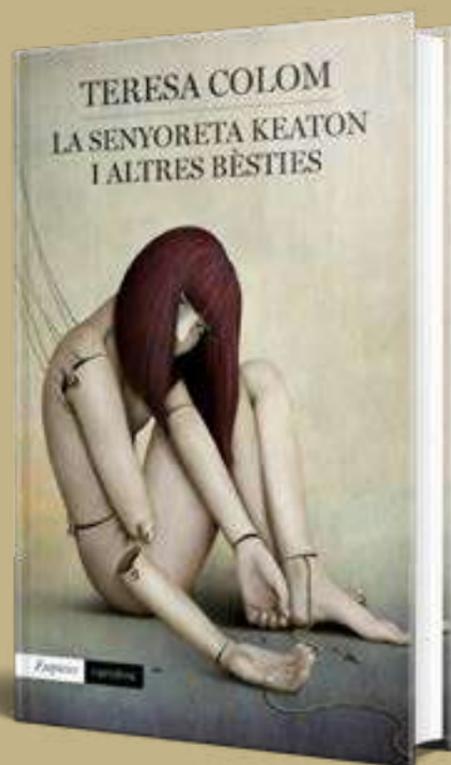
The Lighthouse



Operation Black Tide

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- English sample
- Spanish long synopsis



MISS KEATON & OTHER BEASTS

TERESA COLOM

GENRE: FANTASY | **PLACE:** UNKNOWN | **TIME:** UNSPECIFIED GOTHIC PERIOD

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

Miss Keaton and Other Beasts consists of five interconnected stories, which explain the life (and death) of five peculiar children. Miss Clock is born, grows, falls in love, lives the four seasons and dies; Caterina's child is a girl who becomes a whale; Roc is a child with a piglet's fingernail abandoned by his father; the son of the gravedigger seems to have come out from under the earth; and Mrs. Petarol has found a boy made of ice in her kitchen.

With the trigger of the birth of a baby, Teresa Colom reviews the existence from the beginning to death and creates an imaginary world, sometimes cruel, but full of tenderness and humor.

THEMES

TIM BURTONESQUE **OBSESSIONS & NIGHTMARES**
DARK FAIRY TALE **GOTHIC ATMOSPHERE**

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Death:** Death itself is the protagonist of these darkly short stories. Her desire is being a mum.
- **Miss Clock:** is a girl whose whole life takes place in a year: she is born, she grows, she falls in love, she lives the four seasons and she dies.
- **Caterina's child:** she seems to communicate with every animal she comes across. One day, on a carriage ride in the port, she disappears just a few feet from the sea.
- **Roc:** he has pig's hoof, instead of fingers, on his right hand. His father abandoned him and he is adopted by Miss Keaton.
- **Woody:** he is born from the belly of a dead and buried woman, thanks to the same Death, who has always had the desire to be a mother. He is a sharp boy who asks countless questions about life and death.
- **The Petarol's little boy:** is a sweet baby that seems to have come from the cold and who melts with the proximity of fire.

SYNOPSIS

MISS CLOCK

Miss Clock is a girl who grows extraordinary quickly, from the moment she is born. In months, she is older than her mother, who has no idea what to do. Doctors tell her that this "disease" has no remedy. As she doesn't know anything else, the girl enjoys the moment, without asking too many questions. She doesn't understand that her family is so obsessed with time. In a kind of Benjamin Button in reverse, her whole life takes place in a year: she is born, she grows, she falls in love, she lives the four seasons and she dies.

CATERINA

Caterina's child also grows too fast. She leaves her mother's belly long before nine months and begins to develop on her own. She has a passion for animals... and for the sea. She ends up disappearing and months later she is sighted by some Japanese sailors on the high seas, swimming happily with a group of whales.

MORTSON'S CHILD

A creature is born with a pig hand. His family wants to get rid of him quickly: what a scandal if his friends see this monstrous child! The baby is welcomed and raised

by Miss Keaton, who takes care of him as if he were her son until some greedy neighbors decide to appropriate some gold coins that were given to him along with the child.

THE GRAVEDIGGER'S SON

A woman passes away three days before giving birth. They bury her without thinking of the child; all of them have assumed he simply has died with her. But this isn't so. This child is born thanks to the same Death, who has been tempted by the idea of being a mother for centuries. The gravedigger takes home this little boy, whose name is Woody, and Death becomes its protector.

THE DESIRCHAMP HOUSE

The Petarol couple do not understand anything when they suddenly find in their kitchen a baby that seems to have come from the cold and who seems to melt with the proximity of fire. The mansion seems to have taken on a new life, until one day they find he is coming apart. Before melting into the snow, the boy smiles.

TRANSLATIONS: FRENCH, SIMPLE CHINESE, SPANISH.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Teresa Colom is a poet and author from Andorra. She holds a degree in Economics from the Universitat Pompeu Fabra. Colom has also published six poetry compilations so far and she is winner of the Miquel Martí i Pol Prize. She is named an 2009 FNAC Talent with *My Mother Was Wondering about Death* (Pagès, 2012). In 2010 she debuted *32 glasses*, a poetic and theatrical stage production. *Miss Keaton and Other Beasts*, her first work of fiction, was awarded with the prestigious prize Maria Àngels Anglada (some other writers awarded with this prize in the past have been Quim Monzó, Carme Riera and Sergi Pàmies).

AWARDS

Winner of the 2016 Maria Àngels Anglada Prize.

REFERENCES



Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children



The Curious Case of Benjamin Button

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- English long synopsis
- *Miss Clock* & *The Gravedigger's Son* English translations & French complete translation



FREE THE TRAGEDY OF THE ATLAS MOUNTAINS

JUAN BOLÍVAR

GENRE: REAL LIFE STORIES | **PLACE:** SPAIN, THE ATLAS MOUNTAINS (MOROCCO) | **TIME:** MARCH - APRIL 2015

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

During Easter 2015, three Spanish climbers suffered a tragic accident in the Wandras Canyon in the Moroccan Atlas mountain range. Two of them survived the fall and were fighting for their lives for seven days – the time it took for Morocco to let the Spanish special forces intervene. However, one of the many mistakes that the Moroccan police force committed during their rescue attempts cost one of the survivors their lives.

In *Free*, Juan, the sole survivor of the tragedy, tells the story of his gruelling fight for survival, and how he got through the dramatic events.

THEMES

OVERCOMING

SPELEOLOGY

FRIENDSHIP

NEGLIGENCE DURING THE RESCUE

STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Juan Bolívar (son):** author of the book. National police officer and lover of extreme sports.
- **José Antonio Martínez:** cautious and prudent police officer. He survived the fall with a deep gash in his skull and a broken leg, but the mistakes of those who had to save him ended up causing his death.
- **Gustavo Virués:** lawyer, entrepreneur, and a born leader. In love with the Wandras Canyon. He died instantly after falling from the height of the first wall the group climbed.
- **Juan Bolívar (father):** experienced mountaineer who introduced his two sons to the love of nature.
- **Diego Bolívar:** Juan's brother.
- **Pepe Morillas, David Virués, Juan Rengel and David García:** the rest of the men on the expedition.

SYNOPSIS

On the 26th of March 2015, a group of nine friends united by their love of caving and nature set out for the Moroccan Atlas to explore and climb the Wandras Canyon area. Once there, they split up into two groups: G-1, whose members Juan (son), José Antonio and Gustavo had been specifically preparing to cross the Wandras River Gorge; and G-2, made up of Juan (father), Diego, Pepe, Juan Rengel and the two Davides, who had chosen to follow a less precipitous path.

While Juan waited his turn to scale the first wall that the G-1 group encountered on its route through the canyon, José Antonio and Gustavo fell violently from the top of the cliff. Horrified and without knowing what had happened, Juan managed to reach José Antonio; he was convulsing, and a pool of blood surrounded his head, but he was breathing. Gustavo, however, did not survive the fall. During the seven days they spent in the ravine, Juan fed and hydrated José Antonio, who was badly injured and extremely disoriented.

Not having received news from the G-1 group, the second group, who had arrived at the meeting point the day before, notified the Moroccan police force and contacted Spanish rescue groups. Despite the obvious urgency and seriousness of the matter, the Moroccan authorities were slow to get going. The supposed rescuers had no previous experience, and the material they had was precarious and insufficient for the operation. On Saturday the 4th of April, having reached the area by helicopter, one of

the officers managed to descend to where Juan and José Antonio were, and placed the wounded man on a stretcher. However, the lack of strength of the officer who remained in the helicopter caused José Antonio to fall into the waterfall. He spent the whole night there calling for help until he died at dawn.

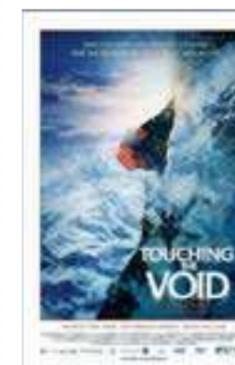
After this outcome, the Moroccan state allowed a group of Spanish geos and civil guards specialised in mountain rescue to intervene. Until then, the Moroccan authorities had prohibited their involvement, stating that the police force was more than capable of performing the rescue. On Sunday the 5th of April, José Antonio and Gustavo's bodies were recovered from the ravine. Juan was taken to the hospital.

Back in Spain, where the tragedy went viral, Juan and the rest of his colleagues were interviewed by the media. The effects of the tragic accident would have been less if the Moroccan and Spanish authorities had cooperated. Juan will never forget that hell, but he will fight to bring the truth to light and honour his friends' memory.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Juan Bolívar is a police officer by profession, but his passion for adventure and mountaineering led him to high-risk sports like canyoning and caving. In 2015, he joined an expedition with the Ilíberis Caving Club to the Wandras canyon in the Atlas Mountains of Morocco. He and two other cavers had an accident in which his companions died. The case caused a stir in the Spanish press due to alleged negligence on the part of the rescue teams and Moroccan authorities.

REFERENCES



Touching the Void



Everest

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- Spanish long synopsis



ALTER EGO

ANA C. SÁNCHEZ

GENRE: COMING-OF-AGE ROMANTIC DRAMA | **PLACE:** A BIG CITY | **TIME:** PRESENT

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

Noel has always been in love with her best friend Elena, but she's never been able to find the courage to confess her feelings. Then, when Elena starts dating a boy, Noel's world collapses as she sees her chance at love slipping away.

A heart-pounding yuri romance about the struggles of having a crush on your best friend, falling in love for the first time and dealing with broken hearts.

THEMES

LGBTQI+ FEEL-GOOD RED FLAGS IN RELATIONSHIPS
UNEXPECTED CRUSHES LOVE TRIANGLES SELF-ACCEPTANCE

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Noel** (20): main character. She has a crush on her best friend, Elena. Despite her generous nature, she can't avoid feeling jealous or behaving in a selfish and bad-tempered way when Elena starts dating Hiro.
- **June** (24): Elena's best friend. Noel is jealous of her friendship with Elena and when June moves to town, she starts thinking she must compete for Elena's attention. However, as she meets June and spends time with her, Noel discovers June has also a crush on Elena. June also has a mysterious past that she tries to hide.
- **Elena** (20): Noel's best friend.
- **Hiro** (20): Elena's charming boyfriend.

SYNOPSIS

Noel has always been in love with her best friend Elena, but she has never been able to find the courage to confess her feelings to her. Then, when Elena starts dating the charming Hiro, Noel's world collapses as she sees her chance at love slipping away.

Despite her generous nature, Noel can't avoid feeling jealous or behaving in a selfish and bad-tempered way. She isn't capable of assuming that the happiness of her friend depends on other people too, and not just her. So, Noel starts believing that she has to compete for Elena's attention. On top of that, everything gets more complicated when Noel discovers that Elena's other best friend is moving to their city.

One night, in a moment of desperation, Noel ends up confessing her feelings for Elena to a complete stranger. As fate would have it, this stranger turns out to be a girl named June, Elena's best friend. Now that June knows Noel's secret, how can she ever win the girl of her dreams in these circumstances? Will June keep her secret?

At first, Noel rejects June. However, as the three girls start spending time all together, she realises she's not the only one who is in love with Elena: June also has a crush on her.

From that moment on, her relationship with June grows into more than just a friendship, as she is the only person with whom she can express herself openly and truly. They fall in love with each other and start a relationship. June helps Noel to accept what makes Elena happy and be glad for her, and Noel becomes June's best support to deal with the ghosts of her past. This way, they explore social acceptance and the emotional spectrum of their maturing relationship, as they accompany each other in the process of healing their broken hearts.

TRANSLATIONS: ENGLISH, FRENCH, ITALIAN, BRAZILIAN.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ana C. Sánchez has always been interested in manga. When she was a teenager, she loved creating stories and she started writing her own tales. Wanting to be more visual, she immersed herself in the world of illustration. She created several webcomics (*Cross Heart*, *Melody of Sorrow*, *Phantom Edge*) that she later printed and sold at manga salons and other events. She worked as a freelance artist for a few years, especially for other writers who needed a cartoonist to carry out their personal projects. In 2019 she published *Alter Ego*, a successful yuri series which has been published in a compilation volume in Spain, France and the US.

REFERENCES



Heartstopper

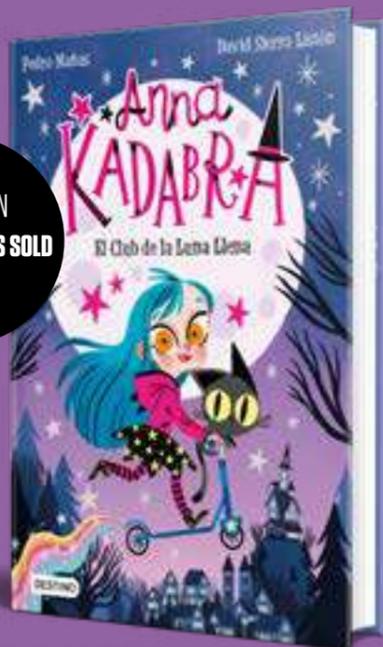


Fragrance of the First Flower

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- Complete English translation

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ANNA KADABRA SERIES

PEDRO MAÑAS & DAVID SIERRA



GENRE: CHILDREN'S FANTASY | **PLACE:** MOONVILLE | **AUDIENCE:** SEVEN YEARS UP

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOVEL

The life of Anna Green takes an unpleasant and unexpected turn when her parents decide to leave their town and move to the old village of Moonville. Soon, though, she will discover the real reason for their move: it's her! Her new school is a magic school, her teacher is a seasoned witch, and her classmates are apprentice witches and warlocks, which makes her... a witch! This is the beginning of the adventures of the Full Moon Club, a troupe of witches and warlocks and their magic pets who defend the village and its inhabitants.

THEMES

ADVENTURES FRIENDSHIP MYSTERY
MAGIC CREATURES FEMALE EMPOWERMENT

MAIN CHARACTERS

- **Anna Kadabra:** she is a normal girl until a little magic pet, a cat, chooses her to form part of the troupe of witches and warlocks who defend the village.
- **Marcus Pocus:** Anna's best friend. He loves jokes and silly plans. He has a pet crow.
- **Sarah Kazam:** the oldest member of the group, the best student and the bossiest. She has a pet bat.
- **Ángela Sésamo:** she adores comics, videogames, and feeling different every day. Her pet is a toad.
- **Oliver Dark:** he wants to be like his grandfather, the most famous witch hunter in Moonville.
- **Madame Prune:** the teacher and leader of the Full Moon Club. She might seem a bit of old-fashioned, but she is even crazier than her pupils.

SYNOPSIS

THE FULL MOON CLUB

Anna is furious because she has to leave her home, her school, and her city. With her parents, she moves to Moonville, an old town in the middle of the forest. To top it off, it's a place full of legends and secrets. Like who is that mysterious cat that's following everyone around? And Wait... what if she is a witch?

A PROBLEM WITH WINGS

Strange things are always happening at Moonville, but this is the first time glittery manure has fallen from the sky! Apparently a little flying creature is to blame. Anna and her friends have to save it before their enemies, the dreaded witch hunters, find it.

A MONSTER IN THE BATHTUB

The heat has reached the village of Moonville, and Anna and the other witches are planning an excursion to the swamp to cool off. But unfortunately, the neighbors have turned the place to a dump. It's full of soft drink cans, old bags, and a monster with tentacles... wait, a monster?! The magical Full Moon Club will have to defeat it. Or maybe save it?

PARTY AT MIDNIGHT

In Moonville, they celebrate Halloween in a big way! Even Anna and the rest of the magician apprentices

are thinking about throwing a party. Unfortunately, jealous little Oliver Dark has a plan to rob all the guests. But no witch hunter can keep the full moon club from having a good time. A dreadfully good time!

THE PET ISLAND

Madame Prune's birthday is coming up! Unfortunately, Anna and the other witches are running out of time to think of a good present. That's when the gang learns that the mistress lost her magical pet when she was a little girl. Surely nothing would thrill her more than to get her back, but... where is she hiding?

DANGEROUS CAKES

The apprentices of the Full Moon Club face their first witchcraft exams. Unfortunately, Anna is stuck on the subject of Magical Cooking - she can't get any of the dishes right! Maybe her friends can help her make some amazingly tasty cupcakes. She already has the ingredients, but... will her recipe work?

THE SECRET OF THE FOREST

The Full Moon Club is going to camp! The magic apprentices will live together in the middle of the forest and practice their spells surrounded by nature. But, they will find an unexpected summer vacationer ready to ruin their time away... the evil Oliver Dark!

TRANSLATIONS: ITALIAN, GREEK, RUSSIAN, HEBREW, KOREAN, HUNGARIAN, FRENCH, BASQUE, PORTUGUESE, CZECH, TURKISH, MACEDONIAN, SERBIAN.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Pedro Mañas studied English language and literature at the Autonomous University of Madrid. That was where one of his stories was first selected for a collection of works by young authors. Since then, he has won a number of national and international prizes for children's literature.

David Sierra. After finishing the Bachelor of Arts, he studied higher studies in Illustration at the Madrid School of Art 10, with whose end-of-grade project he was awarded. Although almost any area of drawing, design and illustration arouses his interest, until now his professional work has focused on the field of children's and youth illustration, working for prestigious publishers.

REFERENCES



The Worst Witch



Isadora Moon

AVAILABLE MATERIALS

- Anna Kadabra 1 Complete English translation
- English dossier Anna Kadabra Series

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