# Spring 2021

Best of A TLANTYCA

Francesca Martucci

# ELINOR PUFFYGAL

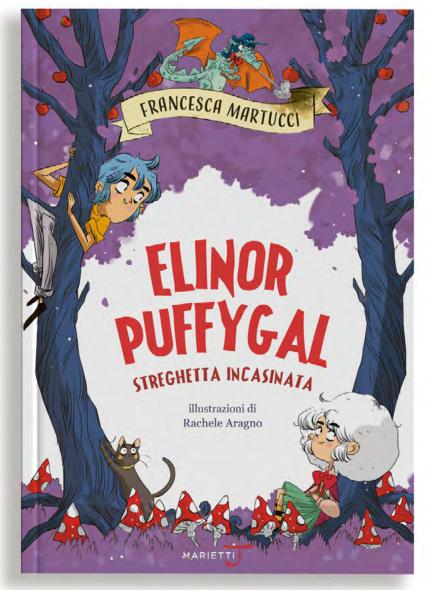
Elinor is an aspiring nine-year-old witch who's about to start at SMA, the School of Magical Arts, on Felinia Island. What will it be like? Who will she meet? And, most importantly, how many times is she going to make a fool of herself?

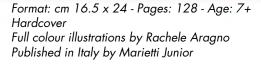
You see, if there's one thing that Elinor is sure about, it's that she'll never be as talented as the rest of her family, which has been producing masters of the magical arts for generations! The only thing she thinks she's good at is playing with ingredients and creating special snacks.

But thanks to her new friends and adventures at SMA, Elinor discovers that her talent is special, too. Actually, it's magic!

## Elinor Puffygal, Messy Little Witch

- A story for dreaming and having fun with magic and a bumbling, hilarious heroine
- An out-of-the-ordinary setting for stories about everyday experiences
- Illustrated by talented Rachele Aragno able to convey humour through an eloquent, unforgettable and exquisite style













**Francesca Martucci** author, editor, and translator, Francesca writes funny stories, fantasy stories, and adventure stories for children who are curious dreamers like her. When she grows up, she wants to be an explorer, a magician, or an astronaut. Possibly all three.

Rachele Aragno one cold autumn night, a little witch called Rachele was born. The first thing she did was pick up a pencil and start drawing. Days, months, years went by, and Rachele became an illustrator and comic book artist.

Her first book, Melvina (BAO Publishing), was published in France by Dargaud where she won the prestigious Artemisia Jeunesse prize and in Spain by Liana Editorial. It's also about to be released in the United States by Penguin Random House Graphic.

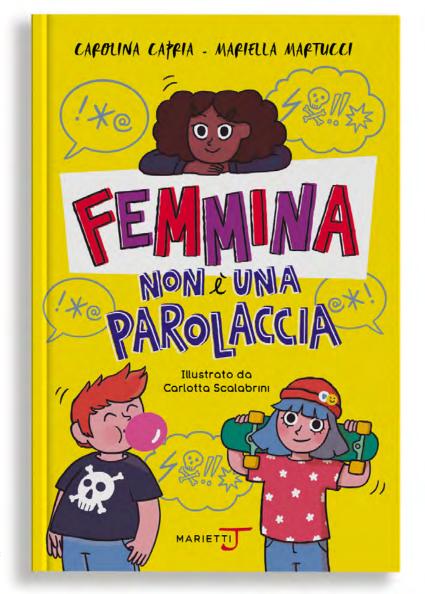
## Carolina Capria - Mariella Martucci



Nina knows that she's a lot of things: a chatterbox, a joker, a good friend... One day, though, a kid in her building accuses her of being a feminist, and she has to go look it up in the dictionary.

Through their small, everyday adventures, from then on Nina and her friends learn how important it is to believe that we all have the same rights and freedoms. They learn how we should all try to change the world around us. Even if it's just a little.

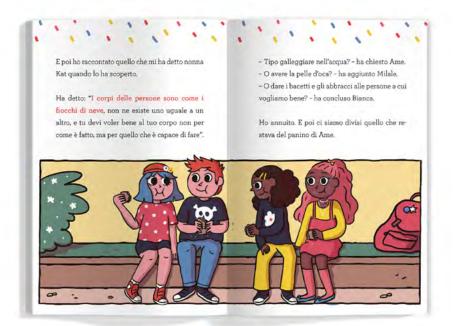
- Females can be a lot of things. Anything they like, in fact. All they have to do is remember they're invincible!
- An instruction manual written like a novel.
  A book for talking about feminism with girls as well as boys beyond gender stereotypes













Carolina Capria hasn't stopped reading since she first learned how to do it. She likes stories in which fearless and intrepid girls save everyone, including princes. She lives in Milan, where she writes and takes long walks with her dog.

Mariella Martucci After spending her childhood reading mystery stories and dreaming of being Nancy Drew, Mariella decided that she was going to write exciting adventure stories about daring, heroic girls. Today she's living that dream.

## Valeria Cagnina - Francesco Baldassarre



If one day you were faced with the strangest mystery ever known and you were able to solve it with your best friend, only to end up catapulted into a black hole... wouldn't that be the most incredible, in fact, impossible thing? But that's what happens to Emma and Plank when they discover the Impossible Lab, a place where mistakes give you points, the rules are topsy-turvy, and three unpredictable robot scientists are ready to make your wishes come true!

## Gravity - What a Force! A Chef's Five Senses

## 1 more title in 2021

- Adventures in space where science is magic and the impossible becomes reality
- A mix of science, open mindedness and friendship
- Illustrated by the Italian illustrator and cartoonist Matteo Piana
- Each title includes interesting and simple experiments to learn new, weird and wonderful things







Format: cm 16.5 x 24 - Pages: 64 - Age: 7+ Paperback Full colour illustrations by Matteo Piana Published in Italy by Marietti Junior







**Valeria Cagnina** built her first robot at 11 years old, was named Digital Champion for the Municipality of Alessandria at 13, was a speaker at TEDx Milan Women at 14, and spent the summer as a Senior Tester at MIT in Boston at 15. In 2019, she was included in Forbes list of 100 under 30 who will change the future.

**Francesco Baldassarre** has a degree in computer science, is passionate about physics and philosophy, and believes in the existence of parallel dimensions. He has decided to revolutionise the world by founding an educational robotics company with Valeria Cagnina.

**Matteo Piana** comic book artist and illustrator has created comics based on the Star Wars saga for Disney and Lucas Film, which have become bestsellers around the world. He often incorporates his passion for history and science fiction into his art.

#### Francesca Tassini

# TAXITIME

Nina, who's 12, has an exceptional talent for spotting lies. After suddenly having to move in with her grandparents, she discovers that they have a secret. A weird secret, an amazing secret... a secret that's bright yellow with wheels!

They used to run a detective agency out of a taxi! With the help of Jordy (who's a bit rough around the edges but has a heart of gold) and with her grandpa at the wheel, Nina turns into a young, four-wheeled detective, solving cases that bubble under the surface of Citadelle.

- 1. Nina and the Secrets of the Taxi
- 2. Nina and the Mystery of the White Deer
- A rollicking detective story with a cast of eccentrics, set in a kaleidoscopic city
- Illustrated by Sara Not, an Italian artist with a highly recognizable and unique style
- Penned by Francesca Tassini, an award-winning young author and screenwriter





Format: cm 14 x 21 - Pages: 160 - Age: 8+ Paperback w/flaps Two colour illustrations by Sara Not Published in Italy by Marietti Junior





#### ZUMBA TRA L'IMMONDIZIA

Il motore era su di giri e gli pneumatici sgommavano, alzando una polvere di asfalto e ciottoli sbriciolati. Dai finestrini chiusi filtrava una musica jazz. Poi, i fari e il motore si spensero nello stesso istante, gettando la stradina nell'oscurità e nel silenzio.

Del misterioso veicolo s'intravedeva soltanto la sagoma. Un maggiolino con un'insegna sul tetto.

«È IL TAXI!» grido Jordy.

Diego fissava la carrozzeria gialla come interdetto. Nina e Jordy ne approfitarono per superarlo con un dribbling e raggiungere il Taxi. Le portiere posteriori scattarono, aprendosi in perfetta sincronia.

Dal sedile dell'autista, nonno Marlo si voltò verso la nipote e Jordy, abbracciato a un rubinetto che valeva mezzo milione di dollari.

«Vi siete divertiti abbastanza?»



#### CAPITOLO 10 dove aleggiava un olezzo di aglio bruciato e bacon abbrustolito. Doveva essere tardissimo! Aveva dormito troppo, accidenti. Si rimise gli abiti della sera prima e si lavò strofinandosi la faccia, come facevano i Nonna Amaranta era seduta al tavolo del soggiorno; di fronte a lei, c'era un signore calvo, che non si era nemmeno preso il disturbo di togliersi l'impermeabile di borgogna. Fissava concentrato le pedine del backgammon, indeciso sulla mossa successiva. La cinciallegra triste se ne stava appollaiata sulla sua spalla e la gazza ladra aveva appena afferrato una stilografica da una ventiquattrore abbandonata accanto alla sedia. Quando Nina entrò nella stanza, l'uomo si distolse dai suoi pensieri come se avesse preso la scossa. «Tu devi essere Nina. Tua nonna mi ba

**Francesca Tassini** gifted with a vivid imagination, Francesca has had a passion for dark moods, the supernatural, and adventure since she was little. In 2004 she began writing for cinema and television, but later moved into adult and children's fiction. She has a cat with orange eyes called Dido and a rambunctious grandson who's the inspiration for some of her tales. She sleeps with the light on because she believes in monsters and ghosts.

### Eleonora C. Caruso



It's bad enough when Leo discovers a slobbering, stinky, ugly monster that follows him everywhere! It's even worse when he discovers the monsters of all the other kids as well! The worst thing of all, though, is that sometimes those dreadful monsters get the upper hand – just when the kids' fears get too big.

Leo and his friends, Ollie and Ren, end up having to battle their mega-monsters with the power of imagination!

## My Stinky Monster My Noisy Monster

## 2 more titles in 2021

- Stories to help children work through their fears
- A blend of action and humor to confront some serious issues with a lighthearted touch
- Written by Eleonora C. Caruso, a novelist, manga expert, and lifelong fan of the Goosebumps series
- Rights sold in Turkish and Ukrainian







Format: cm 14.8 x 21.5 - Pages: 112 - Age: 7+ Paperback w/flaps Full colour illustrations by Maurizia Rubino Published in Italy by Marietti Junior







**Eleonora C. Caruso** contributes to several magazines, works in marketing, and writes comics and novels. When she was little, she preferred stories to reality. Now she's older, she believes that all stories are about reality – including the ones with monsters.

Maurizia Rubino "A drawing a day!" Ever since she was old enough to do it, Maurizia hasn't let a day go by without drawing something. Her passion became her job, and today she's an illustrator who specializes in children's books, character design, and cartoons.

## Carolina Capria - Mariella Martucci

## sweet home TORNADO

With zero choice in the matter, four little girls end up living in a mansion, which is literally falling apart, with a guardian, who's literally gross.

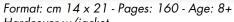
Then, a tornado comes and sweeps away misunderstandings, pessimism, and even their guardian. The tragicomic events are told in a light, irreverent style offering a glimpse into the lives of kids forced to grow up faster.

## The Revenge of the III-Mannered Orphans

- An irreverent and gritty girls-only story about the power of self-belief
- A gang of modern-day Pippi Longstockings
- The return of respected children's writing duo Carolina Capria and Mariella Martucci, authors of The Spaghetti Gang







Hardcover w/jacket

Full colour illustrations by Martina Naldi Published in Italy by Marietti Junior





Quel giorno, però, era lunedì, e Tonja di lunedì pensava solo al lunedì. Quindi, dopo aver messo da parte la vaschetta con il timballino e la mela, farcì il panino con i bastoncini di pesce e i pisellini, lo schiacciò ben bene, lo tagliò in due e ne addentò metà.

Il menù del giovedì era il peggiore: minestrina di verdure, spezzatino, purè di patate,

un panino e una banana. E cioè quasi nulla

che potesse essere infilato nello zaino e tra-

I primi due bocconi andarono giù velocemente. La ragazzina si preparava al terzo, quando qualcosa catturò la sua attenzione: Rox e Arietta se ne stavano al centro della sala, vassoi in mano, e si guardavano attorno alla ricerca di un posto in cui sedersi.

Tonja aggrottò le sopracciglia scure. Per tutta la mattinata si era dovuta sorbire la principessa Rox che alzava la mano in continuazione,

e rispondeva tutta precisa a ogni domanda degli insegnanti. Non aveva alcuna intenzione di sopportarla anche durante il pranzo: aveva decisamente bisogno di una pausa prima di tornare a casa e trascorrere con lei il resto della giornata.

Per fortuna, Lupe era concentrata a risolvere problemi di algebra in vista della prova di ammissione alla scuola per geni. Tonja abbassò



per qualche appuntamento. - Se scopro che

ve che non si devono avvicinare! - ringhiò,

interrotto solo da una voce femminile proveniente dal televisore: - ... e quindi è ormai ufficiale: l'uragano Fenice è passato dalla categoria 2 alla 3 e si sta dirigendo a tutta velocità verso il nostro paese destando grande preoccupazione. Dalla vostra Nancy McNamara è tutto, ci rivediamo al prossimo aggiornamento qui su NewsChannel!

Ehm... - disse infine Rox. - Per caso sapete dirci dov'è la nostra stanza?

- La vostra stanza! - cantilenò Tonja con tono canzonatorio. - Non sei in albergo, Principessa - disse a Rox, piazzandole in mano una scopa. - E il tuo letto, se te ne meriterai uno, lo vedrai solo dopo averci aiutate a pulire.

Rox guardò sconcertata la scopa lurida: - Ma... noi siamo appena arrivate... Non c'en-

- Perché, pensi che noi invece c'entriamo qualcosa con tutto questo? - sbottò Tonja

## Andrea Falcone - Matilde Piran



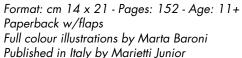
Wrong is the story of a journey: Davide and Elisa, both 15, are on the run, looking for a place to be themselves. It's also the story of a friendship and the search for a common language to express all those emotions that the two just can't deal with.

Davide is the invisible boy. He doesn't like or dislike anything specific, girls and boys frighten him equally, he doesn't fit in with any particular group, and he doesn't know how to approach his own desires. Elisa's family has just moved to the city from a small town so that her kid brother can get the therapy he needs. She doesn't know anyone yet. What she knows is that her half-wit brother, will not help her make new friends.

Through text and images, the story snowballs towards the meeting between Davide and Elisa, and between two different ways to go wrong and be wrong - and to do it together.

- An exploration of diversity and the hypocrisy of the adult world, in which each teenager walks the path to self-realization
- Graphic novel format to enhance the reading experience
- Based on the school theatre event that won The 2018 Scenario Infanzia Award









#### Francesca Tassini



Snow Black wakes up in a shapeless space, surrounded by endless streams of data. She's alone and has completely lost her memory.

She works out from the internet that she was once a young detective and internet celebrity. But now she's a ghost. A ghost trapped in the internet.

Her only hope is to make contact with the kids she can see out there... and ask them to help her solve the mystery of her.

## 1. Snow Black

## 2. Heartless (October)

- A title character that combines the timeless fascination of ghosts with the appeal of internet stardom
- A spellbinding thriller, with a plot that keeps you on the edge of your chair
- Characters that readers can identify with and an intriguing urban setting
- Rights sold in Spanish



Format: cm 14 x 21 - Pages 256 - Age: 11+ Paperback w/flaps Cover Illustration by Gloria Pizzilli Published in Italy by Marietti Junior Samaritana Rattazzi - Andrea Rivola

# MIGNON AND DRAGON

Mignon is the daughter of a peasant family in medieval Siberia. She's small, as sweet as honey, and so sensitive that she can communicate with any animal. She lives a simple, serene life in the forest she loves so much. That is until one day she finds a mysterious blue egg that contains a magical creature that will change her destiny.

## **Second book coming in November 2021**





Format: cm 22 x 28 - Pages: 32 - Age: 5+ Hardcover w/jacket Full colour illustrations by Andrea Rivola Published in Italy by Marietti Junior

