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FICTION

Barbara Garlaschelli **6** **IL CIELO NON È PER TUTTI**
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frassinelli

BARBARA GARLASCHELLI
IL CIELO NON È PER TUTTI
 The sky is not for everyone



Publishing date: February 26th 2019
 Pages: 255

Alida and Giacomo are only twelve but already they are carrying the burden of their families' failures, and share the same loneliness. On a summer day they meet in a park and decide to run away from home. And as this riveting, profound and moving plot unfolds, their disappearance forces both their families to come to terms with themselves and with the secrets they've been hiding.

In the Po Valley summer is a time of relentless heat bearing down on empty streets, when towns acquire a hallucinatory quality, an atmosphere of haunting sadness. You can't sleep, you can't function, you can't think.

That is the season when Giacomo's grandfather dies. He was a despicable, evil man, but everyone pretends to deeply mourn his loss – a lie that feels oppressive and confusing for Giacomo, the youngest in the family.

It is also the time the relationship between Regina and her daughter inexorably unravels. Haunted by a dark past in her native Albania Regina has been working herself to the bone, cleaning the homes of the well-to-do in a desperate attempt to provide for her daughter Alida. But in her single-minded effort she continually leaves Alida on her own and then overcompensates by compulsively checking up on her. The result is Alida feels both abandoned by her mother's absence and suffocated by her obsessive supervision.

The lonely, dispiriting paths of Alida and Giacomo cross on a scorching day in a deserted park. Giacomo is riding his red bicycle, Alida is carrying the cell phone her mother demands she keeps with her at all times. And with the immediate, uncanny, instinctive understanding that is the prerogative of children, they both realize there is but one solution to their problems – running away. They're scared, but their newfound friendship gives them all the strength they need.

The disappearance and the desperate search that immediately follows forces Giacomo's family and Alida's mother to finally come to terms with themselves, facing the ghosts of their pasts, admitting errors and mistakes and realizing they have placed an unbearable burden on their children's shoulders.

But the longer the children stay missing the more they begin to fear that perhaps the realization has come too late.

"It is in its innermost tone that the writer achieves her greatest results."

Ermanno Paccagnini – **CORRIERE DELLA SERA**

"She tears the words from the paper (...) and then whispers them in a caress longing for quiet.

Such is the style of Barbara Garlaschelli." – **GAZZETTA DI PARMA**

BARBARA GARLASCHELLI (Milan, 1965) lives and works in Piacenza. She has published with Frassinelli the novels *Nemiche* (*Enemies*, 1998), *Alice nell'ombra* (*Alice in shadows*, 2002), *Sorelle* (*Sisters* 2004, recipient of the Scerbanenco award) and *Non ti voglio vicino* (*Don't come near me*, 2010), shortlisted at the Strega award. barbaragarlaschelli.wordpress.com

BACKLIST
 FOREIGN SALES - PRIZES

SORELLE Sisters – 2004

Foreign Sales SPAIN Roca Editorial, FRANCE Payot et Rivage, NETHERLANDS Sirene, PORTUGAL Presença
Prizes SCERBANENCO 2004

NON TI VOGLIO VICINO Don't come near me – 2010

Prizes Shortlisted for the 2010 STREGA PRIZE, Finalist at Massarosa Lit **ALESSANDRO TASSONI PRIZE** for fiction and **VII MATELICA - LIBERO BIGIARETTI** literary fiction prize selected for the **ELLE READERS' PRIZE**, winner of the 2010 **UNIVERSITY OF CAMERINO AWARD** and the 2012 **CHIANTI AWARD**

**The park is deserted.
There's just the two of them,
studying each other from opposite benches.
Until the girl stands from her bench
and marches right up to the boy.
«Hi. My name is Alida.»**

We have all been children. We have been all the children. With skinned knees, eating focaccia and leaving greasy fingerprints on grandma's china cabinets. Covering our mouths to hide helpless giggles when mom broke a plate and burst out in some forbidden word. Turning cartwheels on the lawn and ruining our new dress with ice-cream stains. Tearing our trousers on the garden's brambles.

We have all been children. Flipping cards against a wall, hoping they'll fall on our opponent's so we'll win the whole deck or climbing on our older brothers' back to play horse, while they shook us off like bothersome insects.

We have all been children. But most of us have locked their childhood in the garden shed, abandoned and forgotten along with broken tools and dried-up paint in dusty bins. They forget they were ever children. They even forget the memory of it.

«Childhood is the most difficult thing of the world to write about;
because we have hidden ours somewhere deep inside
or because we were never really kids anyway.
Barbara Garlaschelli writes about children
avoiding all sap and bringing lost worlds
back into the light.»
DANIELA LOSINI — journalist and writer

«Alida is anger and silence. Regina walks in shadows.
Giacomo is running towards the unknown.
An innocent man dies.
Two children grow up.
And all around them the world keeps spinning.»
NICOLETTA VALLORANI — writer



VALERIO VARESI - BACKLIST

Inspector Soneri series

PRIZE-WINNING INSPECTOR SONERI SERIES HAS SOLD OVER 90,000 COPIES AND IS TRANSLATED INTO NINE LANGUAGES.

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2011 AND THE 2012 INTERNATIONAL DAGGER AWARD AND WINNER OF THE 2018 NOVELA NEGRA PRIZE!

CRITICS, READERS AND TELEVISION AUDIENCES HAVE DECREED VARESI'S SUCCESS AS ONE OF THE MOST ACCLAIMED AUTHORS OF «SOCIAL THRILLERS».

IL FIUME DELLE NEBBIE River of shadows – 2003

Foreign Sales GERMANY Rowohlt, TURKEY Alfa Basim, SPAIN Editorial Poliedro, WORLD ENGLISH RIGHTS MacLehose Press (Quercus), THE NETHERLANDS Karakter Uitgevers, FRANCE Agullo Editions, ROMANIA Crime Scene Press

TV rights sold to CASANOVA ENTERTAINMENT. Shortlisted for PRIX ITALIA as best TV programme

Prizes nominated for PREMIO STREGA, nominated for the 2011 INTERNATIONAL DAGGER AWARD, 2018 NOVELA NEGRA AWARD

FRENCH AND ENGLISH TEXTS AVAILABLE

L'AFFITTACAMERE The landlady – 2004

Foreign Sales GERMANY Rowohlt, POLAND Rebis, WORLD ENGLISH RIGHTS MacLehose Press (Quercus), FRANCE Agullo Editions, ROMANIA Crime Scene Press

TV rights sold to CASANOVA ENTERTAINMENT

LE OMBRE DI MONTELUPO The dark valley – 2005

Foreign Sales GERMANY Rowohlt, SPAIN Norma/Edigrabel, CATALAN EDITION Norma/Edigrabel, WORLD ENGLISH RIGHTS MacLehose Press (Quercus), FRANCE Agullo Editions, ROMANIA Crime Scene Press

A MANI VUOTE Empty-handed – 2006

Foreign Sales GERMANY paperback Rowohlt, SPAIN Norma/Edigrabel, POLAND Rebis, FRANCE Agullo Editions

TV rights sold to CASANOVA ENTERTAINMENT

ORO, INCENSO E POLVERE Gold, incense and dust – 2007

Foreign Sales WORLD ENGLISH RIGHTS MacLehose Press (Quercus), FRANCE Agullo Editions

Prizes FEDELI PRIZE 2008 and MEDITERRANEAN LITERARY PRIZE FOR DETECTIVE AND NOIR NOVELS 2008 – shortlisted for the SCERBANENCO and the AZZECCAGARBUGLI Prizes

LA CASA DEL COMANDANTE The commander's house – 2008

Prizes LAMA & TRAMA PRIZE 2009

IL COMMISSARIO SONERI E LA MANO DI DIO

Inspector Soneri and the hand of God – 2009

È SOLO L'INIZIO, COMMISSARIO SONERI

It's just the beginning, inspector Soneri – 2010

ULTIME NOTIZIE DA UNA FUGA Latest updates on an escape – 2014

IL COMMISSARIO SONERI E LA STRATEGIA DELLA LUCERTOLA Inspector Soneri and the strategy of the lizard – 2014

Foreign Sales WORLD ENGLISH RIGHTS MacLehose Press (Quercus)

IL COMMISSARIO SONERI E LA LEGGE DEL CORANO Inspector Soneri and koranic law – 2017

Historical novels

LA SENTENZA The verdict – 2011

IL RIVOLUZIONARIO The revolutionary – 2013

Prizes finalist at the PREMIO ROMA 2013

LO STATO DI EBBREZZA A state of inebriation – 2015

VALERIO VARESI
LA PAURA NELL'ANIMA
 The fear within



Publishing date: October 16th, 2018
 Pages: 264

A DEEP AND INSIGHTFUL PORTRAIT OF OUR SOCIETY, OF THE SHADOWS LURKING BEHIND EVERYDAY APPEARANCES, OF CHANGES IN OUR COLLECTIVE SUBCONSCIOUS

It's August and inspector Soneri is hugely relieved to leave Parma and its suffocating heat for a well-deserved mountain holiday with Angela in Montepiano, a small village on his beloved Appennini. But just a few days in, the silence of night is pierced by the scream of a man coming from the woods. He's been shot in the leg, but has no memory of what happened. He can't remember who shot him or why.

Soneri tries his best not to get involved, to salvage his holiday, but deep down he already knows it's no use. And as on cue, in the next few days the village is taken over by Carabinieri. For after a string of killings and armed robberies, the elusive Vladimir, a Serbian killer and Italy's most wanted criminal, has found refuge in those very same woods. The Carabinieri are sure they have him cornered but in the fact all they manage to achieve is to terrorize the village.

Things get worse when a young boy is shot to death. Yet another of Vladimir's heinous crimes, no doubt. And that's when fear reaches its peak, destroying everything in its wake – Montepiano's everyday life, its traditions, whatever bonds had made it into a community. The Serbian criminal acquires an almost legendary status in the eyes of the locals. He has become the ultimate monster, a ruthless and elusive killer so contemptuous of the law as to even mock the police and the Carabinieri with sardonic postings on social networks. He just perfectly fits the profile.

Perhaps a little too perfectly, begins to suspect Soneri.

«I'm sure there's no real danger» said Soneri, shaking his head.

«It doesn't have to be real. The danger within is much deadlier than the danger lurking without.»

“Varesi's thrillers are told in whispers, with an emphasis on atmospheres rather than mere action, and a celebration of slowness, while awaiting the detective's insight.” – LA REPUBBLICA

“Soneri never settles for just finding the culprit. In his investigations he plumbs his own depths and those of a whole community, dissecting our times – though he himself struggles with them – and exposing their contradictions.” – LA REPUBBLICA

“Valerio Varesi is not just a talented writer but also an insightful political observer.” – Il Fatto Quotidiano

“Novels by Valerio Varesi are presented as thrillers but are actually uncannily prescient journeys through Italy's dark side.” – LA STAMPA

“Varesi clearly has a “taste for symbolism” contributing to the mysterious and distinctively Italian quality of the novel. The seasonal rising and falling of the river water –which paradoxically devours what it has created – is both literal and figurative here and it yields a heavily atmospheric narrative.” – TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

VALERIO VARESI is a beloved author both at home and abroad. His literary production belongs to two distinct genres – «social noir», with the Inspector Soneri series, and historical, with novels set at major turning points in post-war Italy, now collected in one volume under the title *Trilogia di una Repubblica* [Trilogy of the Republic].
www.valeriovaresi.net