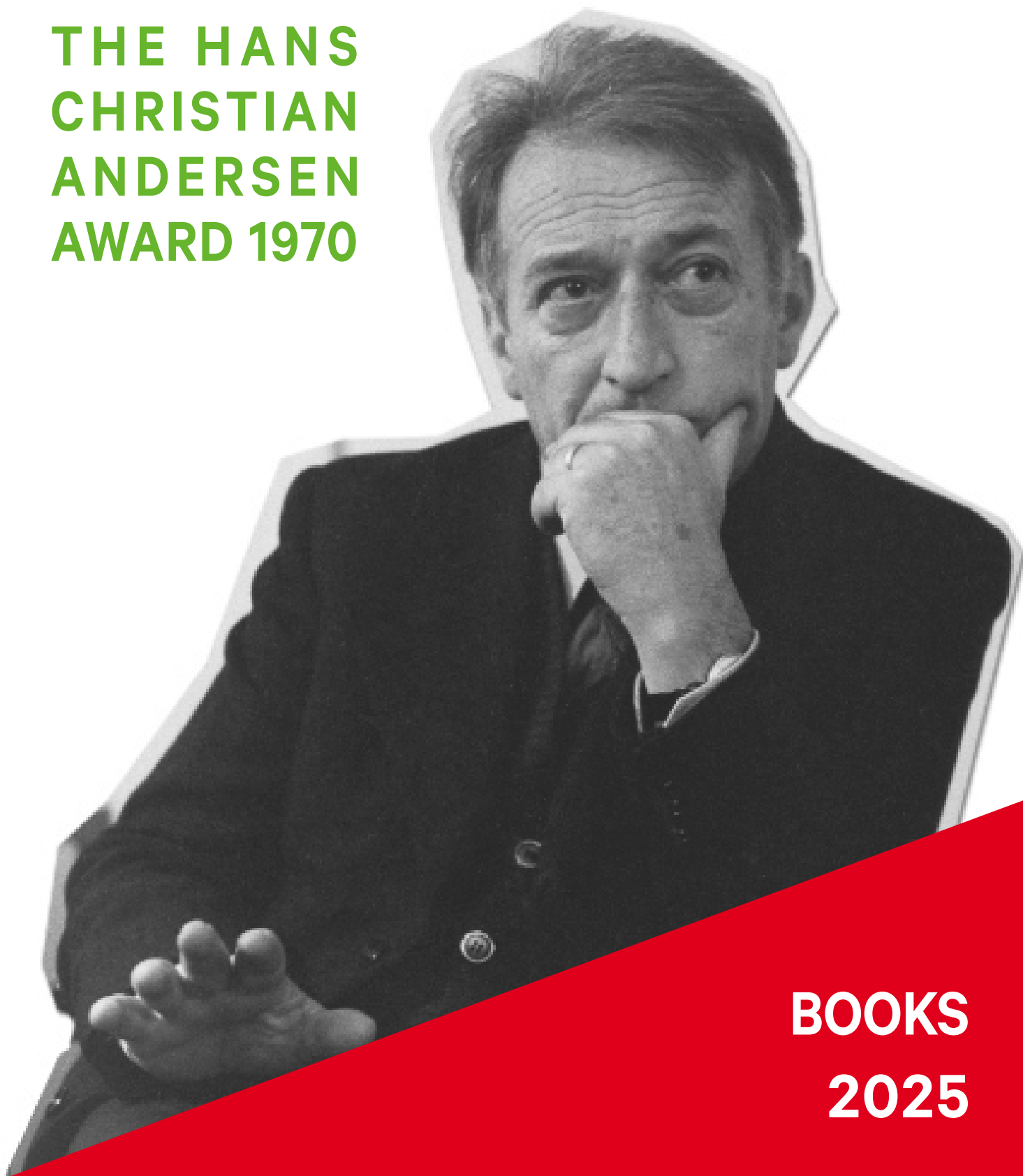


GIANNI RODARI

THE HANS
CHRISTIAN
ANDERSEN
AWARD 1970



BOOKS
2025



Edizioni EL



Einaudi Ragazzi



Emme Edizioni

Gianni Rodari is one of the twentieth century's greatest authors for children.

Gianni Rodari was born in Omegna in 1920. After achieving his teaching diploma, he worked as a teacher for a few years. At the end of the Second World War he began his career as a journalist, which led him to collaborate with numerous Italian magazines.

During the Fifties he began to publish his works for children, which immediately achieved a huge success among public and critics.

Influenced by French surrealism and linguistics, Rodari stressed the importance of conceiving poetry as a playful activity and a means of recovering the rhythm and sound of the oral tradition of nursery rhymes, exploring the potential of the language and exploiting the combinatory and releasing power of words.

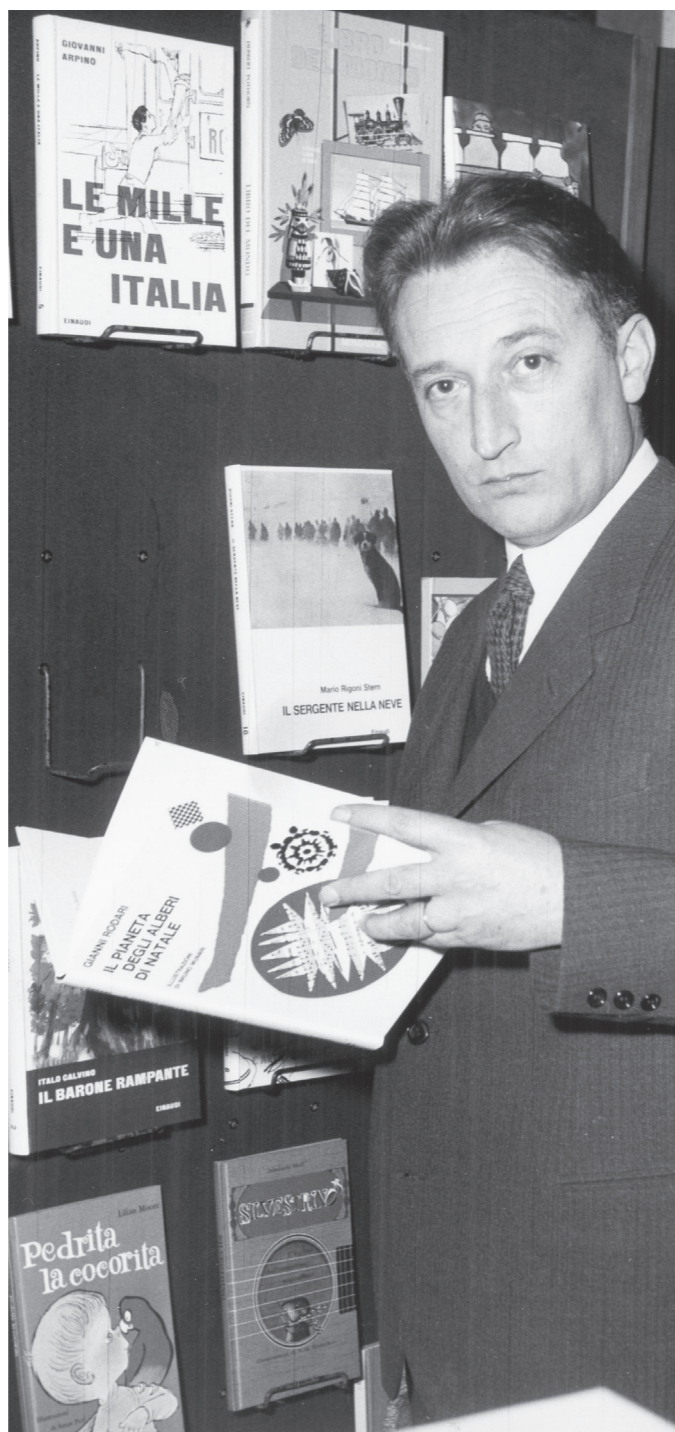
In the Sixties and Seventies, he took part in conferences and meetings in schools with teachers, librarians, parents and students. At a time when schooling was all about factual knowledge, Rodari wrote *La grammatica della fantasia* (1973), a book on the art of making up and writing stories, which immediately became a reference point for people involved in reading education and children's literature.

Rodari was a forerunner of writing techniques such as that of the 'fantastic binomial', of the 'what happened after' and the 'what happened if..', which now play a key role in creative writing and are still employed by teachers and authors of children's books.

Gianni Rodari died in Rome in 1980. His books were translated into several languages and have earned many awards, including, in 1970, the prestigious "Hans Christian Andersen" award, considered the "Nobel Prize" of children's literature.

The relevance of Rodari's works today lies in his poetics of imagination, in his ironic approach to reality and to social and civic issues such as war and peace, emigration, injustice, inequality and liberty.

Thirty-five years since his death, Rodari's writing appears to be as powerful and innovative as ever: with the incredible number of 46 languages, is the second Italian most translated author ever. (Data from the UNESCO's Index Translationum, 2025)



THE GRAMMAR
OF FANTASY

"Rodari proposes a truly integrated model of education with 'no hierarchy of subjects whatsoever. And ultimately, there is only one single subject: real life, encountered from all points of view.' This isn't just some grandiose theory. Rodari gets practical. Throughout 'The Grammar of Fantasy,' he offers classroom games that puncture the barriers between academic disciplines."

Mac Barnett for the New York Times

256 PAGES, FOR ALL AGES

This renowned book by Gianni Rodari explores the workings of our imagination, guiding us beyond the confines of a dull scholastic routine and into the captivating world of creativity. Rodari compares a word to a stone tossed into a pond: just as the stone creates a series of ever-expanding ripples that gently stir both water lilies and a child's paper boat, a single word sets off intricate chain reactions—unfolding in sounds and images, dreams and memories, and endlessly generating new words and analogies.

RIGHTS SOLD: German, Simplified Chinese, Castilian (Spain, Mexico, Colombia and Lat. Am.), Catalan, Galician, Portuguese (Portugal and Brazil), Romanian, Russian, Complex Chinese, English, Greek, Dutch, Montenegrin.

Illustrations by Lucio Schiavon



Lucio Schiavon is an illustrator and graphic designer born in Venice. He has collaborated with La Biennale di Venezia and illustrates books for numerous publishing houses. He won the International Motion Art Award in New York in 2011 and the Berlin Interfilm Festival Short Movie 2015 with two different short films in animation.



TALES ON THE PHONE

240 PAGES, AGE 6+

Every night at nine o'clock, no matter where he is, Mr. Bianchi, an accountant, calls his daughter to tell her a story. There are seventy short stories—one for each phone call. Each tale unfolds in a different place and time, featuring unique and unconventional characters. A delightful blend of reality and vivid imagination.

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Catalan, Galician, Japanese, French, Lithuanian, Simplified Chinese, Bosnian, Turkish, Russian, Georgian, Vietnamese, Italian in Germany, Armenian, Romanian, Portuguese (only Portugal), English, Greek, Albanian, Dutch, Indonesian, German, Bulgarian.

Illustrations by Simona Mulazzani



Simona Mulazzani is an illustrator from Milan. Since the 1990s she has been working as an illustrator and collaborating with some of the major Italian and foreign publishers. In 2005 and 2013 she has won the Silver Medal of the Society of Illustration.

*more editions available



GELSOMINO IN THE LAND OF LIARS

192 PAGES, AGE 7+

Somewhere, there is a land of liars—a place where bread is ink, green is red, dogs meow, and cats bark. Imagine the chaos that unfolds when Gelsomino, who always speaks the truth, arrives in such a topsy-turvy world. One of Gianni Rodari's most entertaining and whimsical tales.

RIGHTS SOLD: Russian, Vietnamese, Simplified Chinese, Bulgarian, Hebrew, Turkish, Georgian, Armenian, Romanian, Farsi, Albanian, German, Serbian, Castilian, Catalan, Galician, Portuguese, Kazakh, Ukrainian, Lithuanian, Japanese, Latvian, Azerbaijani.

Illustrations by Raoul Verdini



Raoul Verdini (Rome, 1899 - Rome, 1981) was an Italian cartoonist, illustrator and journalist. He worked with many Italian and international publications. He also illustrated numerous books collaborating with Gianni Rodari.

*more editions available



THE ADVENTURES OF CIPOLLINO

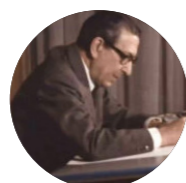
224 PAGES, AGE 7+

Cipollino is a young onion who never had the chance to attend school, so he sets out into the world to discover the true nature of good and evil. It doesn't take him long to realize that evil resides in Prince Lemon and his loyal followers. Determined to stand against injustice, Cipollino bravely challenges Prince Lemon's tyranny and ultimately succeeds in founding a Republic.

A story full of humor and lightness that touches on deep themes such as justice, equality, freedom, friendship, and solidarity.

RIGHTS SOLD: Bulgarian, Japanese, Georgian, Vietnamese, Simplified Chinese, Turkish, Russian, German, Albanian, Greek, Romanian, Armenian, Castilian, Azerbaijani, Ukrainian, Catalan, Farsi, Lithuanian, English, Latvian, Kazakh.

Illustrations by Raoul Verdini



Raoul Verdini (Rome, 1899 - Rome, 1981) was an Italian cartoonist, illustrator and journalist. He worked with many Italian and international publications. He also illustrated numerous books collaborating with Gianni Rodari.

*more editions available



THE BLUE ARROW

152 PAGES, AGE 6+

The Blue Arrow is an electric train, the most exquisite toy in the shop. Francesco knows he will never have enough money to buy it. But a toy dog and a wise Indian Chief sense his longing. One night, the toys make a daring escape from the shop. As they set off on a thrilling adventure, Francesco and his army of toys journey through the night—until their fate takes an unexpected turn at dawn.

RIGHTS SOLD: Russian, Vietnamese, Simplified Chinese, Turkish, Armenian, Farsi, Bulgarian, Albanian, Ukrainian, Georgian, Macedonian.

Illustrations by Nicoletta Costa



Nicoletta Costa was born in 1953 in Trieste, where she lives and works. She graduated in Architecture in Venice and began her work as an illustrator two years later. She has illustrated dozens and dozens of volumes and albums and she has also worked with Unicef to illustrate Christmas cards.



TWICE UPON A TIME THERE WAS BARON LAMBERTO

176 PAGES, AGE 11+

Baron Lambertino is very old, very rich, and very sick. After a mysterious trip to Egypt, he hires six people to live in his attic, tasked with repeating his name all day. But trouble arises when his scheming nephew Ottavio and a band of 24 bandits—also named Lambertino—threaten his fortune. A delightful and thought-provoking tale that humorously critiques the absurdities of wealth and bureaucracy while inspiring readers to embrace their imagination and the unexpected.

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese, Turkish, Farsi, Castilian, Catalan, Galician, Portuguese, Polish, English, Georgian.

Illustrations by Javier Zabala



Javier Zabala is born in León (Spain, 1962). He studied Illustration and Graphic Design at Oviedo and Madrid. He has illustrated more than 80 books, for some of the most prestigious publishing houses in the world. His works have been shown in numerous solo and group exhibitions around the World.

*more editions available



A PIE IN THE SKY

112 PAGES, AGE 9+

In a small town, chaos erupts over a mysterious “flying saucer.” The adults fear an alien invasion and prepare to call in the army, scientists, and researchers. However, two children are skeptical and, as the events unfold, they are proven right: it’s not a flying saucer at all, but a gigantic and delicious cake that they’ll enjoy with many friends.

RIGHTS SOLD: French, Castilian, Simplified Chinese, Turkish, Portuguese (Brazil only), Vietnamese, Arabic, English, Georgian, Ukrainian, Dutch.

Illustrations by Chiara Baglioni



Chiara Baglioni is an Italian freelance illustrator born in Arezzo (Tuscany, Italy). She studied Costume Design in Florence and Rome. Now she travels a lot for work and spends her time among Italy and Canada, where one of her latest exhibition was held in 2024/2025.

*more editions available



FABLES LONG AS A SMILE

176 PAGES, AGE 6+

An anthology of over 50 short stories from Gianni Rodari’s early works, filled with fantasy and fun, while also offering a keen insight into the adult world. It highlights many contradictions to chuckle at and serious issues to tackle with joy. A delightful read for all ages, this book invites everyone to discover or rediscover the magic of imagination and the transformative power of words.

RIGHTS SOLD: Catalan, Russian, Ukrainian, Simplified Chinese, Greek, Turkish, Arabic, Estonian.

Illustrations by Sophie Fatus



Sophie Fatus was born in Paris in 1957, where she graduated from the Ecole des Beaux Arts, but has lived and worked in Florence for many years. She has published illustrations and short stories with Italian and foreign publishers. She also excels in painting and sculpturing.

*more editions available



TWENTY STORIES PLUS ONE

168 PAGES, AGE 7+

In these tales, everyday objects come to life, and nothing is as it seems, as fantasy and reality continuously intertwine: A tavern keeper who changes careers to become a living statue, an emperor who bans all guitars from his kingdom because he can’t play, and a little girl who doesn’t want to grow up.

RIGHTS SOLD: Russian, Ukrainian, Castilian, Simplified Chinese, Greek, Vietnamese, Turkish.

Illustrations by Giulia Orecchia



Giulia Orecchia lives and works in Milan. She started drawing when she was a child. She has participated in courses in printmaking and art therapy. She works all day with pencils, watercolors, paper and computer creating funny drawings that make children laugh.



ALICE'S LITTLE STORIES

64 PAGES, AGE 6+

Her tiny stature allows Alice to explore hidden objects and corners of everyday life. Her family is well aware of her inclination for unpredictable adventures and no longer marvels at her sudden disappearances and equally miraculous reappearances.

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Simplified Chinese.

Illustrations by Valeria Petrone



TYPEWRITTEN STORIES

240 PAGES, AGE 11+

Bizarre characters, unpredictable situations, and surprising endings characterize Gianni Rodari's exploration of the vices and virtues of daily life. Rather than teaching lessons, his dazzling language and irony towards conventional sayings offer endless amusement and reflection for readers of all ages.

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Catalan, Japanese, Simplified Chinese, Farsi.

Illustrations by Valerio Vidali

*more editions available



THE BOOK OF WHY'S

160 PAGES, AGE 9+

Why don't fish drown? Why are adults always right? Why doesn't my dad ever win the football pools?

"The game of why is the oldest in the world," Rodari warns, "and children fire their questions like a machine gun." Each 'why' is not simply answered with sensible adult logic but becomes a springboard for nursery rhymes, stories, and fantastic inventions.

RIGHTS SOLD: Vietnamese, Simplified Chinese, Castilian, Romanian, Korean, Portuguese (Brazil), English, Bulgarian.

Illustrations by Emanuele Luzzati

*more editions available



GIOVANNINO PERDIGIORNO'S TRAVELS

88 PAGES, AGE 6+

Giovannino is a great explorer, he is curious and loves great adventures. The worlds he sees however don't satisfy him entirely, so he leaves, dreaming of a land where everything is perfect, beautiful and flawless.

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese.

Illustrations by Desideria Guicciardini

*more editions available



MARCO AND MIRKO'S STORIES

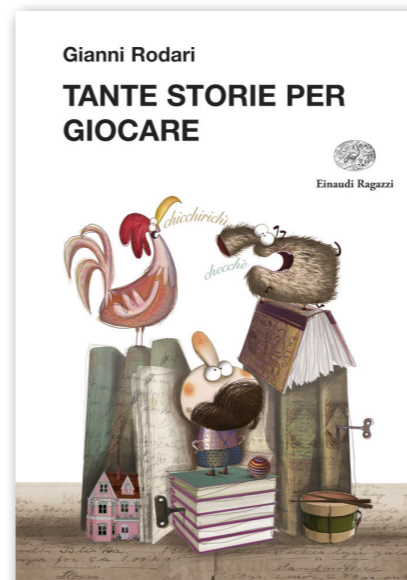
96 PAGES, AGE 9+

Stories about twins Marco and Mirko, who assist adults in solving mysteries with their resourcefulness and adventurous spirit. All of this unfolds within the enchanting world that only Rodari can create.

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Catalan, Turkish, Simplified Chinese, Farsi.

Illustrations by Anna Laura Cantone

*more editions available



LOTS OF STORIES TO PLAY AROUND WITH

176 PAGES, AGE 7+

This is Gianni Rodari's most famous collection of "flights of imagination" for young readers: twenty stories, each featuring three different endings, inviting readers to use their creativity to invent their own. At the end of the book, the author shares his thoughts on the various endings, offering a glimpse into the workshop of a storyteller.

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Catalan, French, Complex Chinese, Simplified Chinese, Japanese, Greek, Turkish, Farsi, Bulgarian.

Illustrations by Anna Laura Cantone



ADVENTURES IN THE CLASSROOM

160 PAGES, AGE 8+

For Gianni Rodari, school should be a place where learning and fun coexist harmoniously. This anthology of short stories is an ideal collection he would have enthusiastically recommended for school reading. Each story is simple, entertaining, and encourages children to think while smiling.

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese, Castilian, Catalan, Albanian, Japanese.

Illustrations by Giulia Orecchia



THE CHRISTMAS TREE PLANET

160 PAGES, AGE 9+

Marco embarks on an incredible space journey on his rocking horse and discovers a magical planet where every day is Christmas. In this world, life is filled with solidarity and friendship, helpful robots grant wishes, technology is accessible to all, and war does not exist. This enchanting Christmas story explores themes of peace and science in service of humanity, delivering a powerful lesson in justice with humour and lightness.

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Greek, Albanian.

Illustrations by Miguel Tanco



THE ADVENTURES OF TONINO THE INVISIBLE

64 PAGES, AGE 6+

Sometimes we wish we could become invisible to skip school, overhear others, and play pranks without fear of punishment. However, if this dream came true, we might face the misadventures of Tonino, the protagonist of this charming story, who soon realizes the downsides of his magical invisibility: not being able to play with friends, being ignored, and feeling lonely. Rodari, with the lightness of his storytelling, prompts us to reflect on important themes like friendship, participation, and solidarity.

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese, Bulgarian, Turkish.

Illustrations by Stefano Turconi



GIP IN THE TELEVISION

160 PAGES, AGE 8+

Despite his great passion for television broadcasts, Gip never imagined he would leap from his armchair, dive headfirst into the magical device, and cause chaos in various programs, creating bizarre mishaps... Yet, in a quiet house in Milan, that is exactly what happens...

RIGHTS SOLD: Turkish, Simplified Chinese, Castilian (Lat. Am.).

Illustrations by Giulia Bracesco



MR CAT'S BUSINESS

88 PAGES, AGE 7+

A delightful collection of stories and rhymes featuring cats. The central tale follows Mr. Cat, who dreams of becoming wealthy. After brainstorming numerous ideas, he decides to start a business in tin mouse beef production. However, convincing the mice to partner with a cat proves to be quite a challenge!

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese, Albanian.

Illustrations by Elena Temporin



TALES AND FANTATALES

96 PAGES, AGE 7+

Extraordinary words, clever yet clumsy thieves, and an unexpected journey into the future on a vibrant merry-go-round blend fantasy with reality in these delightful tales. Filled with magical solutions and practical wisdom, these humorous stories highlight the importance of solidarity and encourage critical reflection on the world we inhabit. They deliver a message of cheerfulness and hope.

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese, Albanian, Turkish.

Illustrations by Nicoletta Costa



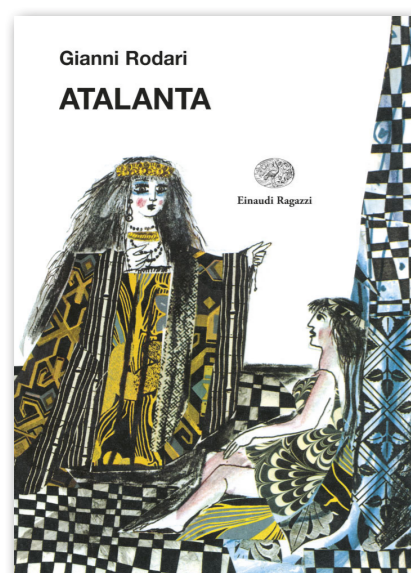
THE GHOST GONDOLA

88 PAGES, AGE 9+

Set in Venice, this story full of Italian carnival masks features the son of a caliph who is kidnapped, along with iconic masks like Pulcinella and Arlecchino, and a mysterious gondola (the traditional Venetian boat). With plenty of misunderstandings and cases of mistaken identity, this book is filled with humour and charm.

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Simplified Chinese.

Illustrations by Adriano Gon



ATALANTA

96 PAGES, AGE 8+

Atalanta features prominently in the most beloved myths among young readers. She sails with the Argonauts and Jason on their quest for the Golden Fleece, assists Hercules with his labors, and participates in Theseus' battle with the Minotaur, among many other adventures. In this work, Rodari presents a unique perspective, blending humor with tales from classic mythology, showcasing a different side of his storytelling.

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian (only in Colombia), Simplified Chinese, Albanian.

Illustrations by Emanuele Luzzati



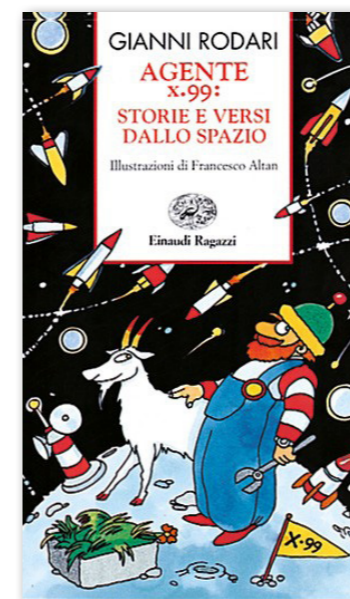
ZOO OF STORIES AND VERSES

88 PAGES, AGE 8+

In these stories, Rodari skillfully weaves a chain of tales, with the final story expertly connected to the first. Each tale stands independently, showcasing a simple yet ingenious narrative structure. The protagonists are primarily animals in a zoo where freedom and imagination reign—reflecting the same perspective with which children view the world. Fulvio Testa delivers a masterful interpretation through his illustrations, capturing the joyful essence of this zoo filled with stories, animals, and creativity.

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese.

Illustrations by Andrea Castellani



AGENT X.99: STORIES FROM OUTER SPACE

88 PAGES, AGE 8+

Agent X.99 is on a quest for friendship, embarking on a space journey in search of companions. The planets he visits and the diverse characters he encounters are portrayed with humor and cleverness, making for an entertaining adventure.

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese, Castilian, Catalan, Portuguese, Galician, Albanian.

Illustrations by Francesco Altan



THE BOOK OF ERRORS

256 PAGES, AGE 9+

A collection of short stories and rhymes featuring “funny” mistakes made by careless students, dull teachers, and athletes, all struggling with grammar rules. Get ready for a good laugh!

RIGHTS SOLD: French, Castilian, Catalan, English.

Illustrations by Alessio Sabbadini



RHYMES IN SKY AND EARTH

256 PAGES, AGE 6+

This collection of short poems showcases the whimsical and witty world of the author. Like a master conjurer, Rodari delights readers on every page with new characters, humorous sketches, and eclectic portrayals of everyday life. It's a celebration of humor and intelligence, making it one of Rodari's finest works.

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Catalan.

Illustrations by Sophie Fatus

BOOKS



LONG AND SHORT NURSERY RHYMES

88 PAGES, AGE 7+

This anthology features some of Gianni Rodari's finest nursery rhymes, showcasing his boundless imagination as a great educator. He communicated with the world of childhood in a way that resonated with children, understanding and inspiring his beloved audience. His whimsical flights of fantasy continue to entertain and captivate readers today.

Illustrations by Laura Rigo



NURSERY RHYMES FOR A WHOLE YEAR

152 PAGES, AGE 7+

With almost one hundred nursery rhymes on various topics, this book stands as one of the finest and most cherished anthologies of Rodari's work. Covering themes from school and bustling cities to camping adventures and grandfather's wisdom, as well as the cats of Rome and trades of the past and present, this beloved writer uses his trademark irony and insight to enrich children's world.

Illustrations by Anna Curti



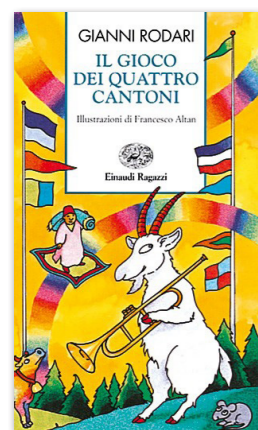
THE SECOND BOOK OF NONSENSE RHYMES

112 PAGES, AGE 7+

These rhymes celebrate children's freedom and playfully embrace grammar mistakes. They invite us to soar with our imagination into wonderful worlds. The collection is divided into four groups: from tongue twisters to rhymes that highlight the unexpected vibrancy of everyday objects.

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese, Korean.

Illustrations by Francesco Zito



PUSS-IN-THE-CORNER

200 PAGES, AGE 11+

A collection of amusing short stories where a cow eats the rainbow, there are flying car-pets, a mermaid in love with humans... Thanks to a skillful and simple style, children can approach surrealistic fiction and learn to play with words.

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese.

Illustrations by Francesco Altan

BOOKS



FIRST TALES AND NONSENSE RHYMES

96 PAGES, AGE 7+

Transitioning from a dull and colorless reality, Rodari transports us to a world filled with fireworks and surprises. Here, we encounter miraculous plants, extraordinary characters, and bizarre locations. It's a true masterpiece of fantasy.

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese.

Illustrations by Sophie Fatus



YOUNG TRAMPS

120 PAGES, AGE 9+

The story of three children who, just after the war, are compelled to leave their village and embark on a long journey through Italy. Traveling from Rome to the Adriatic coast, and from Ferrara to Milan, they engage the reader in a profound human and social experience. Through their adventures, Rodari demonstrates his remarkable sensitivity to the emotions of everyday people, highlighting their struggles and hopes.

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian (Lat. Am.), Simplified Chinese, Georgian.

Illustrations by Angelo Ruta



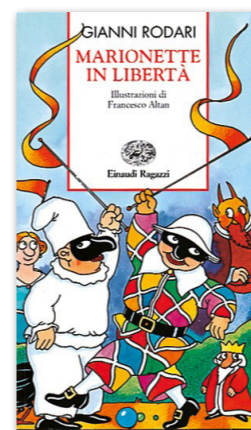
OTHER STORIES

96 PAGES, AGE 6+

A fairy on a sightseeing tour, a Martian experiencing humans for the first time... Once again, a myriad of eclectic characters emerges from Rodari's magical top hat.

RIGHTS SOLD: Albanian, Simplified Chinese.

Illustrations by Francesco Altan



PUPPETS IN PURSUIT OF FREEDOM

116 PAGES, AGE 7+

A collection with three stories about three puppets who, tired of being suspended by a thread, decide to leave the theater in search of freedom. Naturally, they encounter a host of peculiar characters and find themselves in amusing situations, all set within the enchanting world of Gianni Rodari.

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese

Illustrations by Francesco Altan

ANTHOLOGIES



**BIZARRE, CLUMSY,
FORGETFUL.
ALL THE CHILDREN
OF GIANNI RODARI**

160 PAGES, AGE 5+

In this book you will meet a group of exceptional children: the protagonists of Gianni Rodari's stories. From Giovannino Perdigiorno, always ready to travel and make mistakes, to the very curious Alice Cascherina, who slips everywhere, and the invisible Tonino: each of them lives funny, poetic and surprising adventures.

Illustrations by Stefano Tambellini



**TALES TOLD
BACKWARD**

128 PAGES, AGE 5+

From Aesop's talking animals to Pinocchio, as well as Cinderella and Little Red Riding Hood... Classic fairy tales come alive with new life in Gianni Rodari's modern, fun versions. The most beautiful classic fairy tales revisited by the Master of Fantasy and accompanied by Angelo Ruta's illustrations.

RIGHTS SOLD: Bulgarian, Simplified Chinese

Illustrations by Angelo Ruta

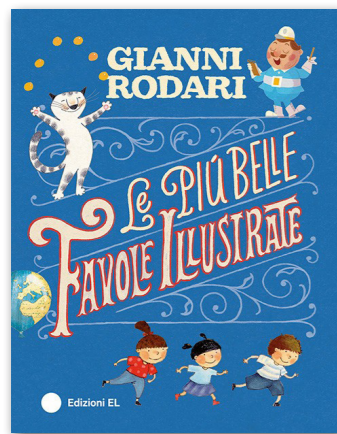


**THE MOST
BEAUTIFUL
ILLUSTRATED
FAIRY TALES**

176 PAGES, AGE 4+

Eight classic fairy tales by the Master of Fantasy illustrated by great Italian illustrators. Fantastic stories, full of irony and intelligence. Profound and entertaining tales to read and reread.

Illustrations by various illustrators



**THE MOST BEAUTIFUL
ILLUSTRATED FABLES**

176 PAGES, AGE 6+

Six classic fairy tales by the Master of Fantasy illustrated by great Italian illustrators. Fantastic stories full of irony and intelligence. Deep and entertaining tales to read and reread.

Illustrations by various illustrators

ANTHOLOGIES



**BIG AS THE WORLD.
THE SCHOOL
OF GIANNI RODARI**

160 PAGES, AGE 5+

A richly illustrated collection of stories and nursery rhymes by Gianni Rodari on the subject of school. A book for all lovers of the Master of Fantasy, for rediscover together the beauty of growing and learning by making mistakes.

RIGHTS SOLD: Romanian, Simplified Chinese.

Illustrations by Noemi Vola



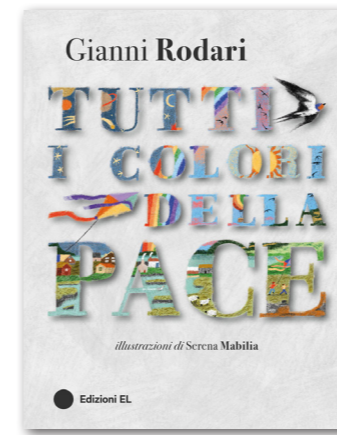
**ON THE TRAIN WITH
GIANNI RODARI**

160 PAGES, AGE 6+

Have you consulted the train timetable? Decided the destination? The Moon or Saturn? For the chocolate planet you have to take the nocturnal! Here are the last latecomers: Giovannino Perdigiorno, Professor Grammaticus and a cat who is neither an accountant nor a lawyer. With Gianni Rodari you can get on the train even without a ticket. Just open the book and leave for Everywhere.

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese

Illustrations by Luca Tagliafico



ALL THE COLORS OF PEACE

128 PAGES, AGE 5+

An anthological volume featuring the most beautiful stories and rhymes by Gianni Rodari on the theme of peace.

The most beautiful stories and rhymes of the Master of Fantasy narrate the power of altruism and solidarity, and the beauty of peace. A book for everyone, young and old, to soar on the wings of peace and discover or rediscover the imaginative power of words. Stories and rhymes, fables to read again and again, a kaleidoscope of images woven with the magical words of Gianni Rodari.

Illustrations by Serena Mabilia



AT THEATRE WITH GIANNI RODARI

200 PAGES, AGE 5+

A collection of theatrical texts by Gianni Rodari in a deluxe edition. Create a theatre for children, starting from their inventions, their experiences and words, was a project that was close to Gianni Rodari's heart in the 'seventies, leading him to carry out an experiment that involved parents, teachers, educationalists and theatre people.

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Portuguese (Brazil only), Simplified Chinese.

Illustrations by Giulia Orecchia

ANTHOLOGIES



THE FINEST STORIES AND RHYMES BY GIANNI RODARI

320 PAGES, AGE 4+

Short or very short stories, rhymes and nursery rhymes collected in five sections and divided according to theme selected from the rich output of Gianni Rodari's work. Dazzling little texts that highlight the vivid imagination, the lightness of touch and the humor of Rodari whose stories continue to entertain old and young readers.

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian

Illustrations by Elisa Paganelli



RODARI FROM A TO Z

128 PAGES, AGE 5+

A collection of stories and nursery rhymes by Gianni Rodari. The stories, nursery rhymes and fables included in this book are taken from his most famous collections and have been selected by thinking at an alphabetic game, simply playing with letters, commas, apostrophes and brackets without any attempt to create a logical thread.

Illustrations by Chiara Armellini



RODARI ALL YEAR ROUND

320 PAGES, AGE 5+

64 tales and nursery rhymes taken from Gianni Rodari's most acclaimed works. It is a perfect Rodari Calendar in which the succession of the months and Seasons mingles with the light-hearted irony of the literary inventions that emerged from the exceptional imagination of Gianni Rodari.

Illustrations by Antonella Abbatiello



A JOURNEY THROUGH ITALY

160 PAGES, AGE 6+

This is a tour of Italy that takes us to well-known places but also to lesser known ones with high-sounding, playful names. Rodari tells about these places and plays with their names, not just those of cities, but also the names of rivers, mountains, lakes, cascades and street names, not too mentioned the names of piazzas, bridges, churches, cemeteries, districts and stations... an unusual geographical tour on which Gianni Rodari guides us by means of his stories and rhymes.

Illustrations by Elenia Beretta

ANTHOLOGIES



GIANNI RODARI. THE NICEST ILLUSTRATED STORIES

240 PAGES, AGE 4+

A volume that includes eight of the most famous stories of Gianni Rodari, the greatest Italian children's writer of the 20th century who, with his imagination and foresight, has entertained millions of readers all over the world.

Illustrations by various illustrators



RODARI ENVIRONMENT

56 PAGES, AGE 6+

A collection of stories and nursery rhymes by Gianni Rodari dedicated to the theme of nature, illustrated by twenty great international illustrators.

A book to grow and learn the respect for life and for the world that surrounds us, playing with the magic words of the Master of Fantasy.

Illustrations by various illustrators



CHRISTMAS TALES

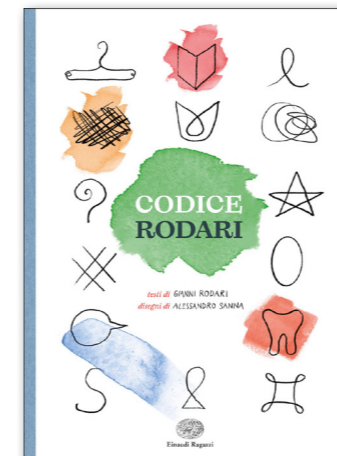
160 PAGES, AGE 6+

This anthology, which collects Christmas-themed stories and nursery rhymes among the best-known and funniest from the children's author, is a colourful greeting card for a holiday that embraces the whole world.

A genuine wizard of words, Gianni Rodari could turn any occasion into poetry.

RIGHTS SOLD: Romanian

Illustrations by Angelo Ruta



RODARI CODE

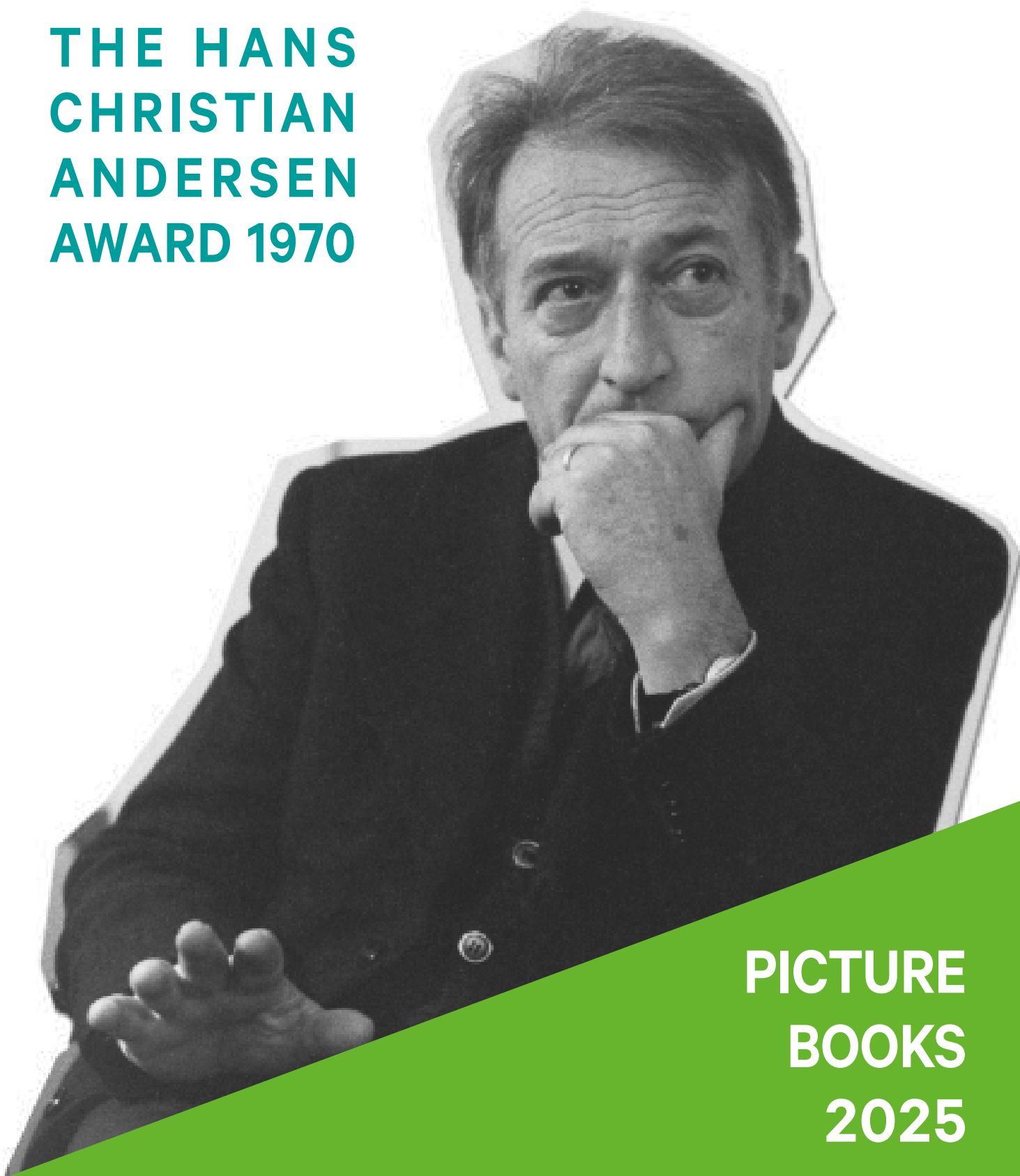
64 PAGES, AGE 5+

An adventure among words and drawings, which invites you to play with your imagination and be surprised by how many new inventions can arise using the signs, lines, shapes and colours as toys. The words of Gianni Rodari and the drawings of Alessandro Sanna, offer themselves as sparks able to play to reinvent reality and transform things.

Illustrations by Alessandro Sanna

GIANNI RODARI

THE HANS
CHRISTIAN
ANDERSEN
AWARD 1970



PICTURE
BOOKS
2025



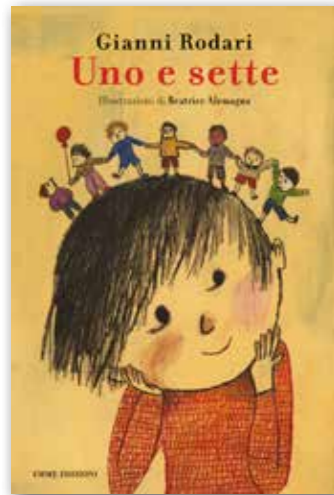
Edizioni EL



Einaudi Ragazzi



Emme Edizioni



ONE AND SEVEN

32 PAGES, AGE 4+

Gianni Rodari tells the story of seven children of different nationalities who are actually the same child.

A story about childhood, equality, solidarity, and peace between peoples: an invitation to worldwide peace.

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese, Korean, Castilian, Catalan, Basque, Galician, Portuguese.

*more editions available

Illustrations by Beatrice Alemagna



WHEN STORIES ARE MISTOLD

32 PAGES, 4+

Once upon a time there was a little girl named Little Yellow Riding Hood. Or was it red? Going into the woods she met a giraffe. Or was it a... horse? This story is all wrong and incredibly perfect. Not all mistakes need to be corrected: Gianni Rodari teaches that they can be a fantastic opportunity to invent stories.

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Catalan, Galician, Basque, Portuguese (Brazil and Portugal), French, Korean, English, Simplified Chinese, Hebrew, Arabic, Farsi, Complex Chinese.

*more editions available

Illustrations by Beatrice Alemagna



THE WALK OF AN ABSENT-MINDED

32 PAGES, AGE 5+

Gianni Rodari portrays a typical trait of childhood: forgetfulness. Little Giovanni is extremely absent-minded: so much that when he goes out for a walk, he loses parts of his body, too absorbed in his own thoughts to notice. Yet, for every absent-minded child, there is a loving mother ready to gather the pieces he leaves behind and put him back together with care.

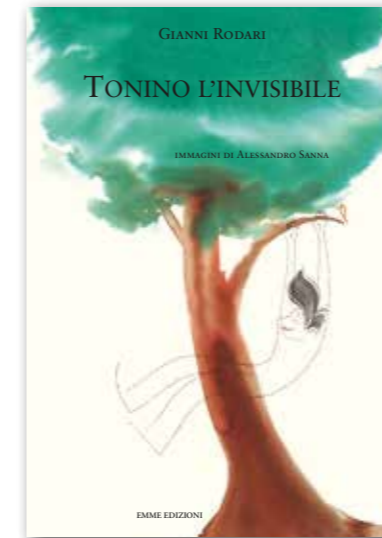
RIGHTS SOLD: Korean, English, Romanian.

*more editions available

Illustrations by Beatrice Alemagna



Beatrice Alemagna was born in Bologna in 1973. She embarked on a career as an author and illustrator first in France and then in the rest of the World. She has created posters for the Centre Pompidou and participated in international competitions, being selected in many countries for prestigious awards including the "Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award" (for six consecutive years) and the "Hans Christian Andersen Award."



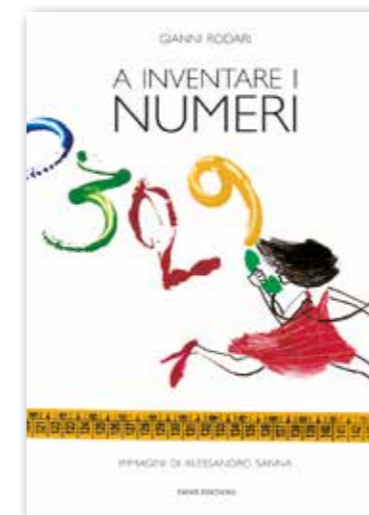
TONINO THE INVISIBLE

40 PAGES, AGE 7+

One of Gianni Rodari's most famous stories. Tonino satisfies his greatest wish and becomes invisible. But now that nobody can see him, how can he take part in the laughter of his friends or his mother's hugs? Being invisible is terrible! Alessandro Sanna has achieved an incredible goal: creating the illustrations of an invisible character!

RIGHTS SOLD: Greek, Turkish, Simplified Chinese, Armenian, Bulgarian.

Illustrations by Alessandro Sanna



MAKING UP NUMBERS

32 PAGES, 4+

A simple yet entertaining game: inventing imaginary numbers. Can a fable on the phone be built entirely on puns? Absolutely! Alessandro Sanna does just that, turning numbers into vibrant graphic symbols—morphing them into faces, cats, blackbirds, and people.

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Catalan, Basque, Portuguese.

Illustrations by Alessandro Sanna



THE COLOURS OF TRADES

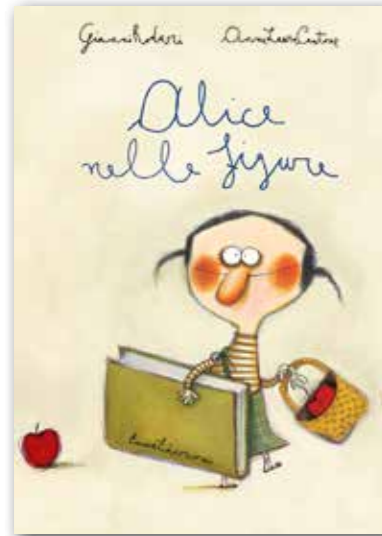
64 PAGES, AGE 6+

Rodari, accompanied by Alessandro Sanna's unmistakable and poetic illustrations, portrays the true essence of those who work: individuals who, day after day, contribute to keeping things running so that everyone can benefit from a shared good. His words remind us that even the humblest of jobs carries its own dignity.

Illustrations by Alessandro Sanna



Alessandro Sanna was born in 1975 in Nogara (Verona). He illustrates and writes children's books, experimenting with different techniques, but he also loves painting very much. In 2016 he was selected among the finalist illustrators of the "Hans Christian Andersen Award."



ALICE IN THE PICTURES

32 PAGES, AGE 5+

Alice is a funny character created by Gianni Rodari, and she always falls into things: alarm clocks, pockets, soap bubbles... How does she do that? And how is it possible to pull her out? It's always a tricky problem. This time she falls into an illustrated fairytale book: it's going to be a lot of fun!

RIGHTS SOLD: Portuguese (Brazil).

Illustrations by Anna Laura Cantone

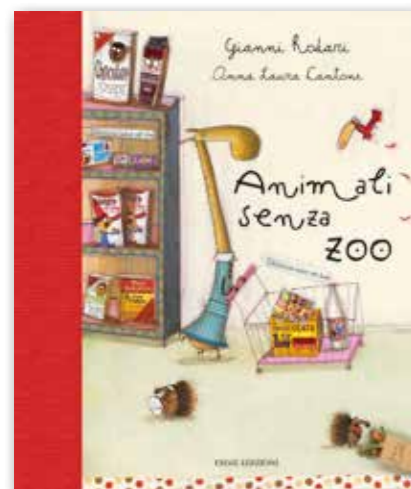


THE LITTLE MAN OF DREAMS

32 PAGES, 5+

While we sleep, the Little Man of Dreams whispers a few words to our ears, and we are immediately transported to fantastic worlds. In this story, images from different dreams follow one after the other, unexpectedly slipping into each other, following the words whispered by the little man.

Illustrations by Anna Laura Cantone



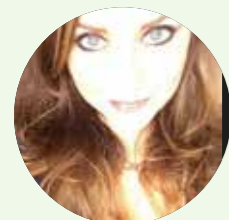
ANIMALS OUT OF THE ZOO

40 PAGES, AGE 4+

Gianni Rodari takes up the ancient tradition of the fable, sometimes placing the protagonist animals in timeless situations and other times endowing them with virtues and vices of the modern world. With her distinctive style, Anna Laura Cantone creates an irresistible whirlwind of humour.

RIGHTS SOLD: Greek.

Illustrations by Anna Laura Cantone



Anna Laura Cantone obtained a degree in Children's Illustration and immediately began collaborating with magazines and soon after with publishing houses. She also collaborates with Italian and foreign galleries, creating sculptures, paintings and installations.



THE PAINTER

40 PAGES, AGE 4+

The main character in this nursery rhyme is a painter who is so poor he pulls his hair out to make his brushes. But what colours can he use, since as he cannot buy any paints? He goes to ask to borrow some from the master of each colour, but absolutely no one is willing to give him any.

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese.

Illustrations by Valeria Petrone



GIOVANNINO PERDIGIORNO'S TRAVELS

40 PAGES, 5+

Giovannino Perdigiorno is a child traveller who ends up in some really unique countries: in one he finds men made of butter, in another the men are see-through and so on. Valeria Petrone interprets Gianni Rodari's famous character with a liberating freshness, offering readers a whiff of the fragrance of utopia.

Illustrations by Valeria Petrone



CHRISTMAS NURSERY RHYME

32 PAGES, AGE 4+

What's in Santa's sack? Sweets, dolls and teddy bears. And then brand new toys and latest inventions! To celebrate the traditional feast of love with children ... but also science and progress, which are a true miracle, when they help us to live better and build a future of peace.

Illustrations by Valeria Petrone



Valeria Petrone lives and works in Milan. She has illustrated over forty books, published in Italy, France, the United States, the United Kingdom, Poland, Spain, Germany and Korea. Her works have been selected and presented at many international exhibitions.



THE SKY BELONGS TO EVERYONE

32 PAGES, AGE 4+

Rodari asks a question that humanity has still not found an answer to: "Why is there only one sky when the earth is broken into lots of pieces?" In this wonderful book, Nicoletta Costa uses her joyful and easy-to-read style to embellish a splendid nursery rhyme from Gianni Rodari's "Book of Errors".

RIGHTS SOLD: Vietnamese, Greek, Japanese.

Illustrations by Nicoletta Costa



THE LITTLE RAIN MAN

32 PAGES, 4+

Since clouds do not always pour rain, they must have taps. And obviously there must be somebody who turns these taps on and off. His name, of course, is "the little rain man", and his job often gets very tiring...

A poetic and funny story.

RIGHTS SOLD: Portuguese (Brazil only), Castilian (only Spain), Turkish, Basque, Vietnamese.

Illustrations by Nicoletta Costa



TALES TOLD BACKWARDS

32 PAGES, AGE 4+

In brief verses, some of the most famous traditional fairy tales are told in an absurd, often hilarious way. Rodari's wit and humour create a fantastic atmosphere, enriched by the upside down character of these tales told backwards, and at the end you're invited to use your own imagination!

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian

Illustrations by Nicoletta Costa



Nicoletta Costa was born in 1953 in Trieste, where she lives and works. She graduated in Architecture in Venice and began her work as an illustrator two years later. She has illustrated dozens and dozens of volumes and albums and she has also worked with Unicef to illustrate Christmas cards.



WHY DOES MY MUM HAVE TO GO TO WORK EVERY DAY, INSTEAD OF STAYING AT HOME AS MY SIBLINGS AND I WOULD LIKE TO?

40 PAGES, AGE 6+

One of the most important questions for all children, which the author answers with depth and irony, lightly revealing the beauty of growing up.

RIGHTS SOLD: Korean, Simplified Chinese, Complex Chinese.

Illustrations by Chiara Carrer



Chiara Carrer was born in Venice and lives in Rome. She has published many picture books for various Italian and foreign publishers, and is one of the best known and most appreciated Italian illustrators in the world.



THE PRAYER OF A SPARROW THAT WANTS TO MAKE A NEST ON THE CHRISTMAS TREE

64 PAGES, FOR ALL AGES

Inside the house everything is ready for Christmas. In a corner of the room, there is a splendid tree all decorated. A small sparrow, numb from the cold, sees it from the window and would like to make a nest in its branches. And, perhaps, it could also become a wonderful surprise to someone.

Illustrations by Sarah Wilkins



Sarah Wilkins is an illustrator who has lived and worked her way around the world. Her award-winning art includes editorial and children's book illustration, posters, book covers, products and environmental design.



REMINDER

40 PAGES, AGE 5+

Reminder is a special hymn to read and learn by heart. A picture book about peace, love and the power of imagination. Gianni Rodari reminds us that in life some choices are much simpler than we think, and making war is undoubtedly something we should never do.

RIGHTS SOLD: Korean, Complex Chinese.

Illustrations by Guido Scarabottolo



Guido Scarabottolo works as illustrator and graphic designer, but also as author, especially in the publishing field. He designed hundreds of covers and now teaches Illustration at the ISIA in Urbino.

PICTURE BOOKS



THE LITTLE MAN OF NOTHING

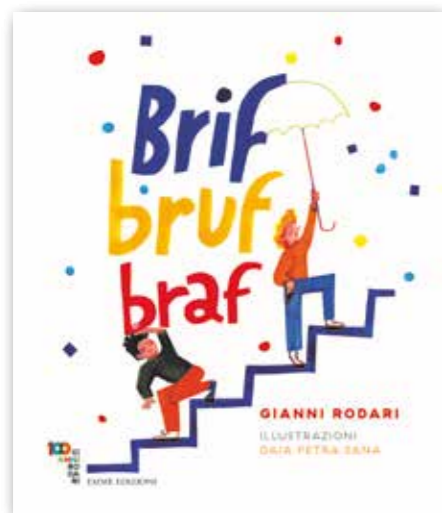
32 PAGES, AGE 4+

Once upon a time there was a little man of nothing. So was he there, or wasn't he? There was, but he did things of nothing, like meeting a mouse of nothing not at all frightened by the cat of nothing and greedy for holes in cheese,... A great surreal story. Gianni Rodari wrote it, Olimpia Zagnoli illustrated it.

Illustrations by Olimpia Zagnoli



Olimpia Zagnoli is an illustrator and multidisciplinary artist; her works have appeared in a variety of printed formats, as well as in galleries and children's books. Her illustrations have been featured, among others, in The New York Times.



BRIF BRUF BRAF

32 PAGES, AGE 4+

One of the most beautiful and fun story by Gianni Rodari published for the first time as an illustrated book.

A book for everyone, young and old, to discover or rediscover the magic of fantasy and the imaginative power of words.

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian (Latin America)

Illustrations by Gaia Petra Sana



Gaia Petra Sana lives and works in Bergamo, where nature and animals have always had space in her drawings. She studied painting but illustrating for children is her passion.



HOPE

32 PAGES, AGE 4+

What could a poet ever do with a tiny shop? A lot, if the poet is Gianni Rodari; thanks to his extraordinary imagination and his boundless humanity, Rodari invents a "shop" in which something very precious is sold cheaply or even given as a gift: Hope.

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, German.

Illustrations by Francesca Ballarini



Francesca Ballarini is an illustrator and visual artist based in Jesi, Italy. In her painting she uses primarily graphite, watercolor and hand drawn lettering. She works also for theaters and opera seasons.

PICTURE BOOKS



CHILDREN AND DOLLS

32 PAGES, AGE 4+

There is a perfect universe where dolls have everything: cutlery, bowls, prams... In reality, however, many children have nothing at all. Gianni Rodari's nursery rhymes go straight to the heart and reveal the essence of a world that often turns upside down.

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian (Lat. Am.).

Illustrations by Gaia Stella



Gaia Stella was born in 1982 in Milan, where she currently lives and works as an illustrator and graphic designer. She illustrates for print and publishing, for Italian and foreign publishers.



PIANO BILL

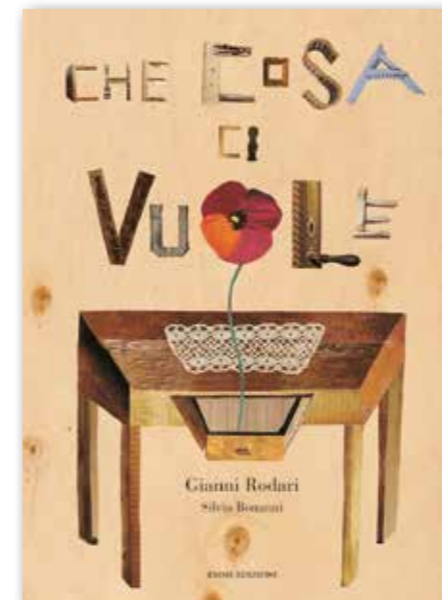
32 PAGES, AGE 6+

He is Bill, Piano Bill. He is a lonely cowboy, who roams on horseback always carrying a piano. And then there is an evil sheriff and a mystery to solve, but Piano Bill is especially interested in making the poignant music of Bach, Mozart and Beethoven resound in the Tolfa mountains.

Illustrations by Manuele Fior



Manuele Fior, born in Cesena in 1975, collaborates with the most prestigious magazines and newspapers, and prominent publishing houses. He won the Fauve d'Or award for Best Album at the Angoulême International Festival 2011.



WHAT DO YOU NEED?

32 PAGES, AGE 4+

A priceless illustrated book, where Gianni Rodari's very simple text is greatly enhanced by the splendid images in collage. The text, which is as elegantly dry as a geometrical demonstration, explains how there cannot be tables without wood, and therefore, by going back one step at a time, "to make a table you need a flower."

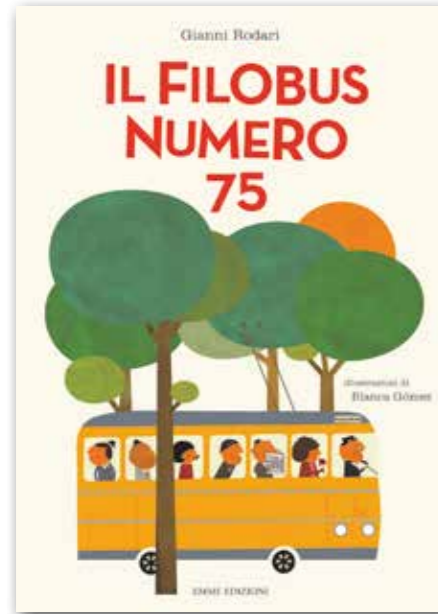
RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese, Castilian, Catalan, Basque, Galician, Portuguese (Brazil only).

Illustrations by Silvia Bonanni



Silvia Bonanni was born in Milan, where she lives and works. After graduating from the Brera Academy, she studied photography at Bauer in Milan and began experimenting with different languages.

PICTURE BOOKS



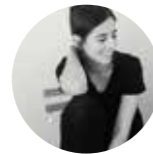
THE BUS NUMBER 75

32 PAGES, AGE 5+

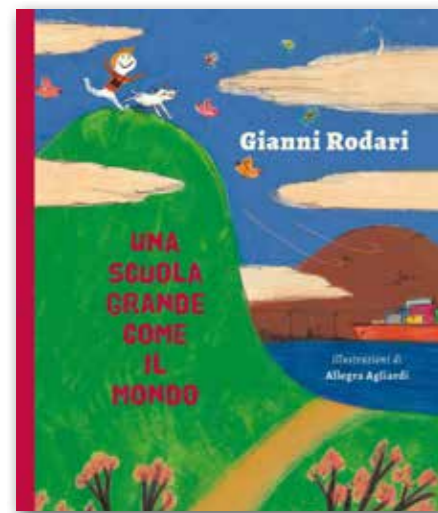
Bus number 75 runs every day on its usual route through Rome, but one morning, suddenly, takes its passengers out of the city to the edge of a forest. The passengers get off and enjoy the beauty of the wood. Now that everybody had fun, the bus is ready to leave and magically not even a minute has passed!

RIGHTS SOLD: Vietnamese, Simplified Chinese, Russian.

Illustrations by Blanca Gómez



Blanca Gómez was born and lives in Madrid, where she works as an illustrator for various clients scattered around the World.



A SCHOOL AS BIG AS THE WORLD

32 PAGES, AGE 3+

A school as big as the world itself. The teachers are professors but also carpenters, even the sun and the stars do teach something in that school. You can learn how to speak, but also how to play and even how to get angry. This school is the entire world: you just have to look around yourself and you will get full marks!

RIGHTS SOLD: Vietnamese, Turkish.

Illustrations by Allegra Agliardi



Allegra Agliardi is an illustrator and graphic designer, who has worked with numerous publishing houses, magazines and newspapers. Allegra holds drawing workshops for both adults and children, also abroad.



THE STORY OF PINOCCHIO

40 PAGES, AGE 6+

Published for the first time in the fifties and constructed through commented drawings and rhyming couplets, this nursery rhyme is a homage by Rodari to one of the characters best loved by children all over the world. A small treasure for people who love Pinocchio.

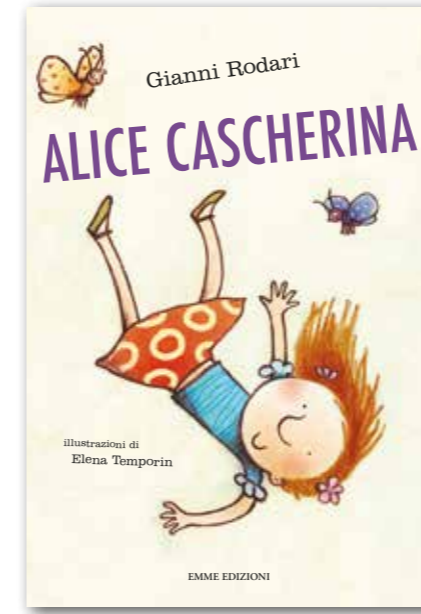
RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Galician.

Illustrations by Febe Sillani



Febe Sillani is an author and illustrator born in Trieste. She lived in London for several years, where she worked in the field of film animation. Her books have been published in Italy, France, Spain, Japan, China, and Korea.

PICTURE BOOKS



TUMBLING ALICE

32 PAGES, AGE 4+

In her eagerness, little Tumbling Alice tumbles over in the most unthinkable places. She tumbles into the alarm clock, into the bottle and into the back of drawers. She even tumbles into her daddy's jacket pocket. Luckily, she always manages to escape!

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese.

Illustrations by Elena Temporin



Elena Temporin was born in Alessandria, Italy in 1970. She studied illustration in Milan, where she attended the European Institute of Design. She has been a decorator, a high altitude cook and has also worked for the theatre.



PRINCESS ALLEGRA

32 PAGES, AGE 5+

Allegra is a princess who always sees the bright side of life. It is time for Allegra to marry, but only the man who can ask for her hand without making her laugh. Everyone fails, except for one poor peasant who has been to war, and is ready to share that knowledge with Allegra in a new life based on compassion and awareness.

Illustrations by Elena Temporin



Elena Temporin was born in Alessandria, Italy in 1970. She studied illustration in Milan, where she attended the European Institute of Design. She has been a decorator, a high altitude cook and has also worked for the theatre.



THE TRIUMPH OF THE ZERO

32 PAGES, AGE 5+

This picture book, inspired by a poem by Gianni Rodari, represents an invitation from the author to look at things in a different way. It tells the poetic story of a Zero that alone is worthless, but when put next to a One can become even a Ten!

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese, Portuguese (Brazil only).

Illustrations by Elena Del Vento



Elena Del Vento is an Italian illustrator born in 1980, and graduated in Industrial Design from the Milan Polytechnic. She currently lives in Paris, where she conducts creative workshops with children and illustration trainings for adults.

PICTURE BOOKS



THE WAR OF THE BELLS

32 PAGES, AGE 6+

Two countries are fighting a long-lasting war. It's us against them. Our General plans to build the ultimate gun with the bells taken from the churches. The enemy's General has the same idea. Both Generals think their weapons shall bring war to an end, but how can churches' bells put an end to war?

RIGHTS SOLD: Japanese.

Illustrations by Pef



Pef was born in France in 1939. One of the most original authors and illustrators in children's publishing, he published his first book at the age of 40, after making a few children's music records.



THE BORA AND THE ACCOUNTANT

40 PAGES, AGE 4+

The bora, the impetuous wind of Trieste, steals the hats, makes the windows of the buildings tremble ... and takes off the accountant Franza, the unsuspected hero of freedom.

Illustrations by Sara Paschini



Sara Paschini is a multidisciplinary designer and illustrator based in Trieste currently working on developing visual concepts and strategies for digital media.



KING MIDAS

32 PAGES, AGE 5+

One of the most famous "Tales on the Phone" is the one about the most famous King in Greek Mythology, who was doomed by a spell to turn everything he touched into gold. But Gianni Rodari's creativity enhances the classical ending with an irreverent surprise...

Illustrations by Francesco Altan



Francesco Tullio Altan, born in Treviso in 1942, studied architecture in Venice. He lives and works in Aquileia, close to the lagoon, the sea, pine trees and the countryside, and takes a bicycle ride every day.

PICTURE BOOKS

A CHRISTMAS TOY



80 PAGES, AGE 6+

A dad looking for Christmas presents finds in an old-fashioned shop window an unusual toy: a remote. In a short time the man realizes that the object possesses a unique power.

With the remote it is possible to travel in the past and in the future, but it has also the ability to make things and people disappear. As fascinating as the possible gift is, it is clear that it can be very dangerous as well. With its powers it is easy to forget reality and it creates a wall between us and the real world.

These are the ingredients of a story in which Rodari shows himself yet again to be a poet with an inexhaustible imagination. A perfect Christmas story. A lovely giftbook that pays homage to the wonderful world of Rodari for people of all ages.

Illustrations by Elisa Macellari



Elisa Macellari is an Italian illustrator with Thai roots, born in Perugia and based in Milan. She likes colorful things, wild animals, jungle, mysterious creatures, strange objects and papaya salad.

SERIES

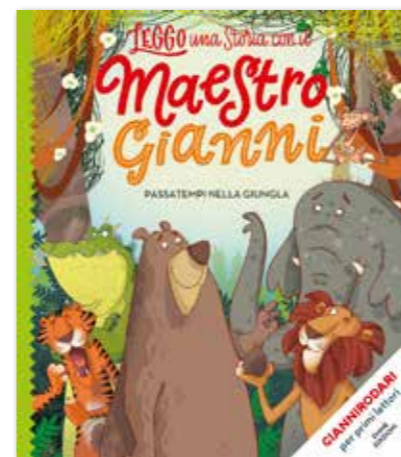
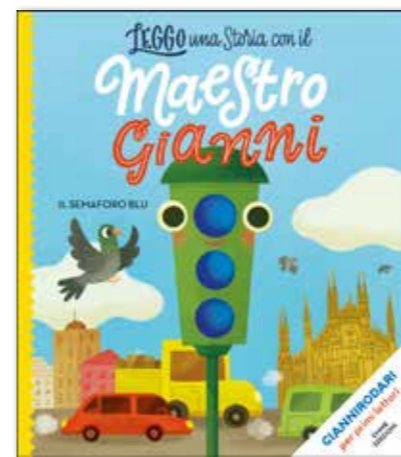
I READ A STORY
WITH MASTER
GIANNI

PAGES 24, AGE 5+

From the Master of Fantasy, a series designed specifically for those who are learning how to read. Precious tools for teachers, essential for those who want to convey the love of reading through easy texts enriched with many illustrations.

RIGHT SOLD: Simplified Chinese.

Illustrations by various illustrators



Fox the Photographer
The Ride of the Turtle
The Walk of an Absent-Minded
The blue Traffic Light
The Concert of Cats

The Comic Book Mouse
Mr Venceslao's House
Bear the Fisher
The trained Horse
Pastimes in the Jungle

The Legacy of Mouse
Alice in the Cake
The stray Cat
The Dogs' Village

SERIES

FABLES AS LONG AS A SMILE

PAGES 64, AGE 6+

Picture books for children ages 6 and up. Fantastic collections of stories perfect for early reading, enhanced by witty and colorful illustrations. How long does it take to smile? One minute? Three? Five? Or seven? With Gianni Rodari's funny fairy tales, you can smile as long as you want!

One minute long Fairy Tales as long as a Smile

Three minutes long Fairy Tales as long as a Smile

Five minutes long Fairy Tales as long as a Smile

Seven minutes long Fairy Tales as long as a Smile

RIGHTS SOLD: Catalan, Russian, Simple Chinese, Greek, Turkish, Arabic, Ukrainian, Estonian

Illustrations by Fabiano Fiorin



SERIES

WHEN CATS FLY...

24 PAGES, AGE 1+

A series designed and edited by Maria Cannata to discover from an early age the pleasure of letting oneself be led by words. Gianni Rodari's stories and nursery rhymes in an agile, robust format with rounded page tips, perfect for first reads!

Arturo

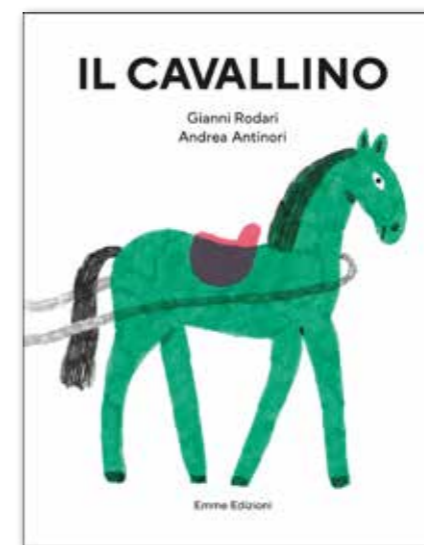
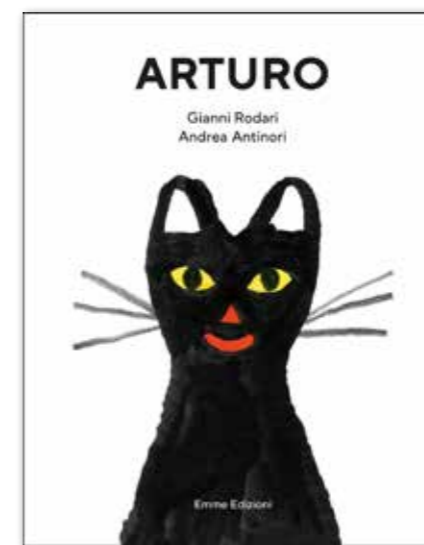
Moon on a Leash

The Foal

To Sleep, To Wake Up

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian

Illustrations by Andrea Antinori



Fabiano Fiorin was born in Venice in 1964, where he still works and resides. After graduating as a Master of Art at the State Institute of Art in Venice, he began his professional career as a cartoonist, later moving on to illustration for children.



Andrea Antinori, born in Recanati, has been working as an author and illustrator for Italian and foreign publishing houses since 2013. In 2016 he entered the selection of the best illustrators of IBBY.

Gianni Rodari is one of the twentieth century's greatest authors for children.

Gianni Rodari was born in Omegna in 1920. After achieving his teaching diploma, he worked as a teacher for a few years. At the end of the Second World War he began his career as a journalist, which led him to collaborate with numerous Italian magazines.

During the Fifties he began to publish his works for children, which immediately achieved a huge success among public and critics.

Influenced by French surrealism and linguistics, Rodari stressed the importance of conceiving poetry as a playful activity and a means of recovering the rhythm and sound of the oral tradition of nursery rhymes, exploring the potential of the language and exploiting the combinatory and releasing power of words.

In the Sixties and Seventies, he took part in conferences and meetings in schools with teachers, librarians, parents and students. At a time when schooling was all about factual knowledge, Rodari wrote *La grammatica della fantasia* (1973), a book on the art of making up and writing stories, which immediately became a reference point for people involved in reading education and children's literature.

Rodari was a forerunner of writing techniques such as that of the 'fantastic binomial', of the 'what happened after' and the 'what happened if...,' which now play a key role in creative writing and are still employed by teachers and authors of children's books.

Gianni Rodari died in Rome in 1980.

His books were translated into several languages and have earned many awards, including, in 1970, the prestigious "**Hans Christian Andersen**" award, considered the "Nobel Prize" of children's literature.

The relevance of Rodari's works today lies in his poetics of imagination, in his ironic approach to reality and to social and civic issues such as war and peace, emigration, injustice, inequality and liberty.

Thirty-five years since his death, Rodari's writing appears to be as powerful and innovative as ever:

with the incredible number of 46 languages, is the second Italian most translated author ever.

(Data from the UNESCO's Index Translationum, 2025)

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