

In the wake of authors like Alessandro D’Avenia and Enrico Galiano, a story told with the language of teenagers but able to enthrall readers of any age



Marco Erba
One day you will recognize me
[Quando mi riconoscerai]

Novel

Rizzoli, March 2018
350 pages

Translation Rights: Rizzoli

Marco Erba lives in Milan where he teaches Italian literature in high school. His first novel, *Fra me e te*, was published by Rizzoli and won the Premio Città di Cuneo amongst other prizes. His second novel *Quando mi riconoscerai* came out in March 2018. His writing takes inspiration from his students and the stories of their lives they share with him. He is married with three children.

1941: Rodolfo and Italo are identical twins. And yet, their outward resemblance hides substantial differences: Rodolfo is a passionate rebel who wants to fight the fascist regime, while Italo is of a more placid nature. Viola, the daughter of a fascist, and Rodolfo, are fiercely attracted to each other and cannot stop from circling round each other in a dance of mutual provocation and innocent chase. Until they finally give in to their attraction which must be kept hidden. Their relationship is doomed: Rodolfo is sent to fight on the Russian front and Viola finds out that she is pregnant and will choose to carry the shame of raising a fatherless son rather than revealing that the baby is Rodolfo’s child. While Italo will live all his life waiting for his brother’s return and blaming Viola’s family for Rodolfo’s deportation.

Fifty years later: the focus shifts to the special friendship between Enea, shy and diligent student, and Camilla, a bully of a child growing up in a context of family violence. As kids, they cannot stand each other; as teenagers, they become friends and then lovers, and we will let the reader find out if their paths will reunite as adults. Yet a hidden thread of secrets binds the destinies of the four lovers, as Camilla and Enea will soon discover.