

# Diogenes

**Magdalen Nabb**  
***The Innocent***

Published by Diogenes as *Eine Japanerin in Florenz*  
Original title: *The Innocent*



**Magdalen  
Nabb**  
***Eine Japanerin  
in Florenz***  
*Guarnaccias dreizehnter Fall*

*Roman · Diogenes*

The body of a woman has been found half submerged in an ornamental fish pond in Florence's Boboli Gardens high above the Pitti Palace where Marshal Guarnaccia of the carabinieri is stationed. At first, the woman cannot be identified; only her skull remains. The investigators must use her clothing and a single handmade leather shoe to trace her.

She turns out to be a Japanese woman apprenticed to one of Florence's legendary custom shoemakers, crotchety old Peruzzi. Could he have killed his protégé? Or did jealousy drive his other apprentice to murder? The neighbours have seen the pretty woman with a handsome man. Who was he? And did a lovers' quarrel lead to murder?

Marshal Salvatore Guarnaccia, a Sicilian stationed in Florence, pursues his investigation in the city he now knows so well, questioning its citizens, whose characters and motivations he knows even better. It turns out that the Marshal must go to Rome to complete his investigation. When he returns to Florence he can identify the killer, but can he bring him to justice?

## Book factsheet

Crime fiction, General Fiction  
352 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
March 2006

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**Rights currently sold:**  
English/USA (Soho Press)

### Awards

- 1991 ›Josie Smith and Eileen‹ erhielt den Smarties Book Prize.  
1989 ›Josie Smith‹ war nominiert für den Guardian Children's Fiction Award.

### Praise

*The Innocent*

»Lean, elegant prose that surpasses the best of Simenon, along with a puckish view of the Florentines from Guarnaccia's Sicilian perspective.« – Kirkus Reviews

»It takes a writer as good as Magdalen Nabb to remind us how subtle the art of mystery can be ...Nabb has Simenon's knack.« – The New York Times Book Review, New York

»[Magdalen Nabb's] latest Florence whodunit starring Marshal Guarnaccia, a pleasing, satisfying read...« – The Bookseller, London

Magdalen Nabb

»A writer of elegant crime fiction.« – The Daily Telegraph, London

»It takes a writer as good as Magdalen Nabb to remind us how subtle the art of mystery can be.« – The New York Times, Book Review

»Magdalen Nabb is one of the most original of all crime writers.« – Georges Simenon



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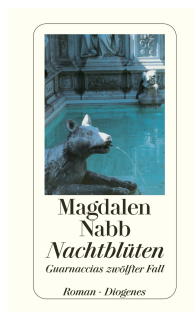
Magdalen Nabb (1947 – 2007) studied at the Manchester College of Art, where she began to write. From 1975 onward she lived in Florence, working as a journalist and novelist. Nabb became famous for her *Guarnaccia* crime novels – she wrote 14 novels about the crotchety yet likeable Maresciallo – and also wrote books for children and teenagers.



**Vita Nuova**  
336 pages  
2008



**Cosimo**  
304 pages  
2004



**Some Bitter Taste**  
336 pages  
2002



**Property of Blood**  
368 pages  
1999



**The Marshal at the Villa Torrini**  
272 pages  
1998



**The Monster of Florence**  
544 pages  
1997



**The Marshal and the Madwoman**  
320 pages  
1997



**The Marshal Makes His Report**  
288 pages  
1995



*The Marhsal's Own Case*  
240 pages  
1994



*The Marshal and the Murderer*  
272 pages  
1992



*Death of a Dutchman*  
288 pages  
1992



*Death of an Englishman*  
224 pages  
1991



*Death in Autumn*  
224 pages  
1990



*Death in Springtime*  
224 pages  
1988