

**Magdalen Nabb**  
***Property of Blood***

Published by Diogenes as *Alta moda*  
Original title: *Property of Blood*



**Magdalen  
Nabb**  
***Alta moda***  
*Guarnaccias elfter Fall*

*Roman · Diogenes*

Olivia Birkett, American ex-model and fashion designer, formerly married as Contessa Brunamonti, who, with iron discipline and a great deal of élan has not only succeeded in paying off the debts of her confidence trickster husband but also in gaining an established position in the Italian Alta moda with her own fashion collection, has been kidnapped.

Naturally, Guarnaccia's boss claims the best part of the case for himself, and Marshal Guarnaccia is instructed to comfort the daughter and the despairing son of the abducted woman, who has been missing for several days, in the Brunamonti Palace. But there is information to be gained from the servants: namely, that the Contessa is nothing like as rich as the kidnappers believe, that all her money is tied up in her fashion company, and that the daughter is trying with unseemly haste to take her mother's place although the employees regard her as incapable of running a business.

## Book factsheet

Crime fiction, General Fiction  
368 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
September 1999

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**Translation rights currently sold:**  
English/UK (William Heinemann)

### Awards

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

### Praise

#### *Property of Blood*

»Credible, classy and compelling, this is crime fiction at its best.« – The Times, London

»Guarnaccia continues to impress as the most convincingly human of modern detectives and his creator as a writer of deep and rare dimension.« – The Observer, London

»The Agatha Christie of the 1990s.« – Corriere della Sera, Milan

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

»Magdalen Nabb's books are set in a Florence so vividly realized that I long to go back there after reading each one.« – The Sunday Telegraph, London

#### Magdalen Nabb

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

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

»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

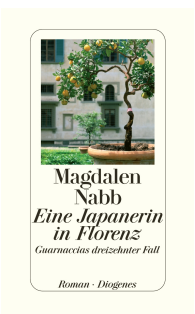


Photo: © Dirk Vogel

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



**The Innocent**  
352 pages  
2006



**Cosimo**  
304 pages  
2004



**Some Bitter Taste**  
336 pages  
2002



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



**The Monster of Florence**  
544 pages  
1997



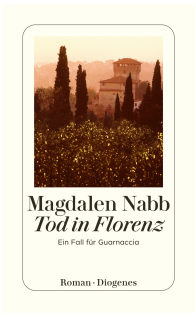
**The Marshal and the Madwoman**  
320 pages  
1997



**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