

**Luca Ventura**  
***In the Middle of August***

Published by Diogenes as *Mitten im August*  
Original title: *Mitten im August*



**Luca Ventura**  
***Mitten***  
***im August***  
Der Capri-Krimi

Roman · Diogenes

## Book factsheet

Crime Fiction, Contemporary Literature  
336 pages  
12.5 x 20.5 x 2.1 cm  
April 2020

Contact:  
Susanne Bauknecht, Rights Director,  
susanne.bauknecht@diogenes.ch and Suzanne  
Hégelé, Film Rights Manager,  
suzanne.hegele@diogenes.ch

### Translation rights currently sold:

Arabic (Al-Arabi)  
Catalan (Enciclopèdia Catalana)  
Estonian (Tänapäev)  
French (Livre de Poche)  
Italian (Giunti)  
Spanish/world (Enciclopèdia Catalana)

### Bestseller

# 17 Swiss Bestseller  
# 19 Spiegel Paperback Bestseller

### Praise

#### *In the Middle of August*

»Respite for the troubled mind.« – ORF, Vienna

»Luca Ventura's Capri crime novel is the start of an atmospheric series which promises everything that Italy has to offer.« – Barbara Hoppe / Das Wochenende, Frankfurt

»A very promising start to a new crime series - and a trip to one of the most beautiful islands in Europe.« – Münchner Merkur, Munich

»This is the opening act to a promising new crimes series, whose protagonists have a fair few secrets still hidden.« – Christina Mondolfo & Mathias Ziegler / Wiener Zeitung, Vienna

»Reading it made me want to go straight to Capri.« – Petra Hartlieb / ORF-Magazin, Vienna

»The story is enthralling, the style is down-to-earth and accurate, the plot straightforward but well constructed.« – Il Mattino, Naples

»An entertaining whodunnit with a classical structure, a sparkling read to take on holiday.« – L'Eco di Bergamo

#### Luca Ventura

»The Gulf of Naples has held a magical appeal for me ever since I was young. Luca Ventura knows it inside out. He writes elegant, naturalistic crime novels – appealing to people who would not usually see themselves as crime novel fans.« – Benedict Wells

»Luca Ventura skilfully combines tension with Italian flair. Pure pleasure.« – Gala, Hamburg

»Ideal for anybody who enjoys the thrill of crime without too much gore.« – Regula Tanner / Schweizer Familie, Zurich

Murder on the most beautiful island in the world.  
 The Gulf of Naples is a test laboratory in times of climate change – and the setting of this highly topical crime novel.  
 Tense thrills in front of a beautiful backdrop: young policeman Enrico Rizzi investigates in the new Capri series.  
 Enrico Rizzi, a policeman on the island of Capri, usually deals with minor crimes. His quiet job means he can help his father in his fruit and vegetable garden above the Gulf of Naples. Until, in the middle of August, a rowing boat washes up on the rocky beach, containing a dead man – Jack Milani, an oceanography student and the son of a major industrialist family. It's the first murder case for Rizzi, a case where the very future of the seven seas is at stake.  
 Enrico Rizzi: the young police officer who wants to stay true to his island.  
 Antonia Cirillo: his colleague transferred from northern Italy for disciplinary reasons, a woman with a secret.  
 Ispettore Lombardi: their boss, whose favourite office activity is enjoying the view of the Gulf of Naples.  
 Commissario Serra: the senior officer who makes Enrico Rizzi an alluring offer.  
 Gina: the woman by Enrico Rizzi's side, who is trying to forget her terrible past.  
 Vito and Marta Rizzi: Enrico Rizzi's parents, who tend their giardino with great love and make the very best peperonata.

#### Praise (cont'd)

»Ventura knows how to depict family feuds and fatal love affairs in an exciting way.« – Ruhr Nachrichten, Dortmund

»His crime fiction also makes wonderful holiday reading: exciting, entertaining, and intelligent.« – Sabine Weichert / Freie Presse, Chemnitz

»Luca Ventura is an elegant literary stylist who deftly narrates sun-soaked crime stories.« – Volker Albers / Hamburger Abendblatt

Luca Ventura prefers to remain anonymous. The writer spends a large part of the year on the Gulf of Naples, where he is currently working on the next case in the *Capri* series about the islander Enrico Rizzi and his north Italian colleague Antonia Cirillo.

