Diogenes

Book factsheet

Luca Ventura
Bittersweet Lemons

Published by Diogenes as *Bittersüße Zitronen*
Original title: *Bittersüße Zitronen*



On the most beautiful island in the world, the lemons are ripening for the Bellinis' famous Limoncello. But then, the Constantinis suddenly stop supplying - they want to make the shift to organic fruits and crowd farming. When Elisa Constantini dies in a mysterious accident on Capri's serpentine roads, the island's young detective Enrico Rizzi and his dynamic colleague Antonia Cirillo lead the investigation - and find themselves gazing into an abyss of old feuds and new disputes.

Luca Ventura prefers to remain anonymous. The writer lives 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.

Contemporary Literature, Crime Fiction, Bestseller
320 pages
12.5 × 20.5 × 2 cm
April 2021

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

Translation rights currently sold:
French (Livre de Poche)
Italian (Giunti)

Bestseller

Spiegel bestseller (paperback)
Swiss bestseller

Praise

Bittersweet Lemons

»*Bittersweet Lemons* is a gripping family saga about greed and passion under the Capri sun.« – Volker Albers / Hamburger Abendblatt, Hamburg

»And even if it rains a lot this time: there's a great deal of flair from the country where lemons grow.« – Marianne Fischer / Kleine Zeitung, Graz

»Whether you read it with limoncello on the beach, or with lemon soda by the pool, *Bittersweet Lemons* has everything you need from a gripping and entertaining summer thriller.« – ORF, Vienna

Luca Ventura

»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

»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 Weichelt / Freie Presse, Chemnitz

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

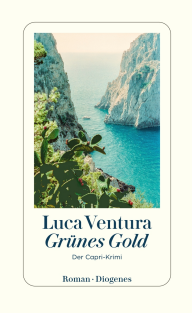
»A promising series with an Italian flavour. Sure to appeal to fans of well-crafted crime fiction set in a dreamlike scenery.« – L'Alsace, Mulhouse



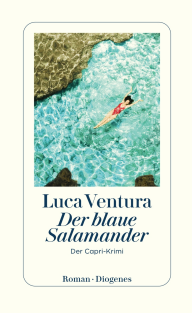
Blue Blood
336 pages
2027



Poisonous Blossoms
368 pages
2026



Green Gold
320 pages
2025



The Blue Salamander
336 pages
2024
Bestseller



Pale as the Moon
304 pages
2023
Bestseller



In a Hidden Cove
336 pages
2022
Bestseller



In the Middle of August
336 pages
2020
Bestseller

Praise (cont'd)

»A crime thriller where the blue of the sea blends with the darkest depths of human nature.« – Point de vue, Paris

»Luca Ventura writes elegant, naturalistic crime novels – appealing also to people who would not usually see themselves as crime novel fans.« – Benedict Wells

»For anyone who wants a summer crime novel featuring the sound of the sea, fragrant gardens and genuine Italian elegance [...].« – Freundin, Munich

»The author under the pseudonym Luca Ventura captures the sun-drenched landscape of Capri and the Italian way of life like no other.« – Italien Magazin, Amsterdam