Diogenes

Book factsheet

Luca Ventura
Pale as the Moon

Published by Diogenes as *Bleich wie der Mond*
Original title: *Bleich wie der Mond*



Only last night he was roaming the island, savouring the aroma of pine trees and revelling in the news he'd just received. But now he's lying dead in a tub at his dairy.
Nino Castaldo was famous for his hand pulled mozzarella, made from pure buffalo milk. Yet nobody realised the struggles he was having with the family business and animal-rights campaigners. But in the bright spring light of Capri, Enrico Rizzi and Antonia Cirillo gradually uncover his secrets.

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
304 pages
12.5 × 20.5 × 1.9 cm
June 2023

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

Bestseller

#10 Spiegel Bestseller (paperback)
#11 Swiss Bestseller

Praise

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

»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

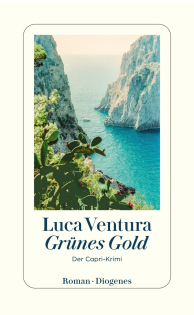
»The author under the pseudonym Luca Ventura captures the sun-drenched landscape of Capri and the Italian way of life like no other.« – Italien Magazin, Amsterdam



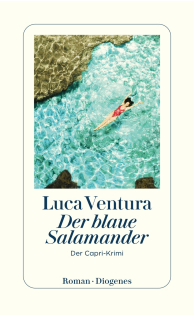
Blue Blood
336 pages
2027



Poisonous Blossoms
368 pages
2026



Green Gold
320 pages
2025



The Blue Salamander
336 pages
2024
Bestseller



In a Hidden Cove
336 pages
2022
Bestseller



Bittersweet Lemons
320 pages
2021
Bestseller



In the Middle of August
336 pages
2020
Bestseller