

**Luca Ventura**  
***Bittersweet Lemons***

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



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***BittersüÙe Zitronen***

Der Capri-Krimi

Roman · Diogenes

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.

## Book factsheet

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

World rights are handled by Diogenes

Film rights are handled by Diogenes

**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 Weichert / Freie Presse, Chemnitz

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

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

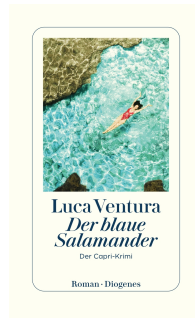
»A promising series with an Italian flavour. Sure to appeal to fans of well-crafted crime fiction set in a dreamlike scenery.« - L'Alsace, Mulhouse



*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**

### Praise (cont'd)

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



*In a Hidden Cove*  
336 pages  
2022

 **Bestseller**



*In the Middle of August*  
336 pages  
2020

 **Bestseller**