

ILARIA GUIDANTONI

MEDITERRANEAN CORRESPONDENCES

a journey in the salt and wind

A Mediterranean journey in space and time, across countries and different peoples is an initiatory path: that of a French woman, the book's protagonist and narrator live, looking for a self remained unheard for too long, confused and withheld in the hectic pace of life. The path of Eloise becomes a metaphor of the existence as nomadism, of the collective research of the meaning of the life, of Europe that finds itself only thanks to the Mediterranean matches of the Mare Nostrum's southern bank. A few minutes are enough to disrupt the life of a person and open the opportunity of the elsewhere

The journey takes us from Lyon to Marseille, the city's most racially mixed in Europe, for a walk in the North Africa, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia revealing to the reader that knowledge and the encounter with the lives of others are the most original gift of everyday life. Eloise changes from being a disoriented listener to a "guide" in a world which is closer than it looks, disproving stereotypes and trying to find the origins of words and familiar things, discovering stories in history.

A warning to France to find the courage to overcome the Cartesian doubt in the sentimental doubt, and for Italy to recover the knowledge of its history as an opportunity.

The questions on the fragility and on the need for others to be happy will be the new traveling companions.

THE AUTHOR

Journalist, blogger and writer, she deals with issues related to the culture of the Mediterranean southern banks

and especially in the Arab world: dialogue between religions, women's and feminist movements; reinterpretation of history and languages. Florentine by birth, she lives and works between Milan, Rome and Tunis. He is the Director of the online cultural newspaper Saltinaria.it.

She gained experience in survey and land development consultancy in the field of strategic and parliamentary consulting political and in economic journalism. Former consultant of companies, institutions, public and private companies, she had a long cooperation with New Technical Editor, Il Sole 24 Ore, she was director of some magazines too.

She published the essay *Vite Scurie. Viaggio tra strade e parole* (Edizioni della Sera, march 2010); the poetries and tales collection *Prima che sia Buio*, (Colosseo Grafica Editoriale, november 2010); the instant book *I giorni del gelsomino* (P&I Edizioni, february 2011); the truth-novel *Tunisi, taxi di sola andata* (NO REPLY Editore, march 2012) and *Chiacchiere, datteri e thé. Tunisi, viaggio in una società che cambia* (Albeggi Edizioni – REvolution, 14 January 2013). She published the tale *Chéhérazade non abita qui* in the shared book published on 25 November 2014 to fight violence against women, *Chiamarlo amore non si può* (Casa Editrice Mamme online). She cooperated with the *Dizionario Enciclopedico delle Migrazioni Italiane nel Mondo* for the entries "l'osmosi siciliana in Tunisia", "l'emigrazione italiana interna nel Novecento" and "i lavoratori italiani nelle miniere nel mondo" (SERItaliAteneo, 2014).

In december 2014 she released *Marsiglia-Algeri Viaggio al chiaro di luna* (Albeggi Edizioni) and in January 2015 *Il potere delle donne arabe* (Mimesis, editore). She took part in representation of Italy in Tunis to the First International Forum on multiple identities in the Euro-Maghreb area organized by The European Community in 2013. She received the award "Diritti umani 2014 – XV edizione Salento porta d'Oriente", as a tribute to Nelson Mandela.

