

The Absolutely True Story of La Befana — A Heartwarming Reimagining of Italy's Most Magical Epiphany Tradition

Summary: Paolo Mazzucato brings humor, warmth, and cultural heritage to a beloved Italian legend in this beautifully illustrated holiday story.



New York City, New York Dec 11, 2025 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - Author Paolo Mazzucato invites readers into the enchanting world of Italian folklore with **The absolutely true story of La Befana**, a charming and imaginative retelling of the classic Epiphany tale. While Christmas stories often spotlight Santa Claus, Mazzucato shifts the focus to January 5th, introducing young readers and families to the magical

nonna whose gifts and goodness have shaped Italian tradition for generations. The book was released by BepiBooks and is available through [BepiBooks](#), Amazon, and other book sellers.

The story follows an old woman who is less than thrilled to have her quiet winter evening interrupted by a knock at the door—only to find three weary travelers seeking directions to a newborn king. In true Italian fashion, she feeds them a hearty bowl of minestrone and sends them on their way, unaware that destiny has called upon her. When a brilliant star wakes her later that night, she realizes she may have missed her chance to join a moment of great hope.

Mazzucato was inspired to write the book as a playful yet heartfelt celebration of cultural storytelling. Blending folklore, gentle humor, and mythic imagination, he brings La Befana's origins to life in a way that resonates with families of all backgrounds. Told from an unexpected point of view, the narrative highlights how even the smallest acts of kindness can connect us to something greater, echoing the timeless themes of compassion and community.

Readers and reviewers praise its humor, heart, and cultural authenticity, calling it a must-have for any family's holiday bookshelf. And, as summed up by Jed Doherty of the award-winning Reading With Your Kids Podcast, "...the whole message of 'getting out there' and sharing your love...is a really timely message."

Ideal for parents, educators, holiday storytellers, and young readers, **The absolutely true story of La Befana** offers both entertainment and cultural enrichment. Its colorful illustrations, warm narration, and even a few delicious Italian recipes make it a delightful addition to seasonal reading traditions. The book also serves as a wonderful introduction to the Epiphany holiday, expanding children's understanding of global celebrations and the universal hope embedded in them.

Purchase your copy of **The absolutely true story of La Befana** at [BepiBooks](#) or on [Amazon](#), [Bookshop](#) and other booksellers. The book is also available in an Italian language edition, **La storia, assolutamente vera, della Befana**.

About Author

Paolo Mazzucato, an accomplished author and illustrator, is known for crafting stories that uplift and inspire. From his #1 Best-Selling picture book, **No One Mocks a Panda**, to his acclaimed fantasy adventures, **The Gondoliers** and **AJ and the Incredible Fish**, his ability to blend whimsy with meaningful themes shines throughout. **The absolutely true story of La Befana** offers a fresh take on a timeless legend and claims its place as a modern holiday classic.



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