

"1918. Alla fine volarono liberi": a new Italian historical novel

Ghigo, Boghe, and three Red Cross nurses face the final year of the Great War in a story of friendship, espionage, wounds, and hope.

francesco bianchi

1918

Alla fine volarono liberi



Firenze, Italy Sep 9, 2026 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - Some years never truly end.

1918 is one of them—a year that seems to close a wound while opening another. It is within this suspended moment that the characters of *1918. Alla fine volarono liberi* move, the new historical novel by **Francesco Bianchi**, now officially available to readers.

Ghigo and Boghe grew up in the same village, sharing childhood memories and the same patch of land. But in the trenches, that land is no longer enough to keep them united. Boghe embraces military life with conviction, discipline, and a sense of duty; Ghigo endures it, trying to remain human in a world that appears to have forgotten what humanity means. Around them, the war is not only gunfire and shouted orders — it is also the quiet struggle inside hospital wards, where three Red Cross nurses, Carola, Theresia, and Luisa, fight a different battle. Every wounded soldier who passes through their hands carries a story suspended between returning to the front or never returning at all.

Their paths cross when fate weaves soldiers and nurses together in a fragile balance of hope and disillusionment. As the war sinks deeper into chaos, Carola discovers a secret that could change everything: Theresia hides small rolled-up notes, undeniable evidence of espionage that threatens to engulf anyone close to her. Meanwhile, the collapse at Caporetto shatters the front. Ghigo is captured, Boghe joins the Arditi, and the nurses continue their relentless work, facing an endless flow of wounded men whose destinies hang by a thread.

Only in 1918, when General Diaz announces the end of the war, does a glimmer of hope return. Yet the euphoria cannot erase the grief. In the hearts of those who survived the mud, frost, and blood of those years, the memory of those who did not make it remains. This is where the novel roots itself: in the memory of what cannot be reduced to a date or a signature on an armistice. *1918. Alla fine volarono liberi* does not simply recount the end of the war—it reveals what the war leaves behind.

With this novel, Francesco Bianchi continues his exploration of twentieth-century memory, blending historical accuracy with narrative tension to create a story that speaks to the present: about responsibility, choices, and the fragile pursuit of freedom. The book is now **officially available**, and all information about the author, his works, and upcoming presentations can be found here:

<https://francescobianchiautore.com/1918-2/>

info: info@francescobianchiautore.com

Media Contact

Francesco Bianchi autore

*****@francescobianchiautore.com

3669280151

Via Bologna, 387

<https://francescobianchiautore.com>

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