

The Silver Wolf

Maite Carranza

Original Title: La lloba grisa

Working Title: The Silver Wolf

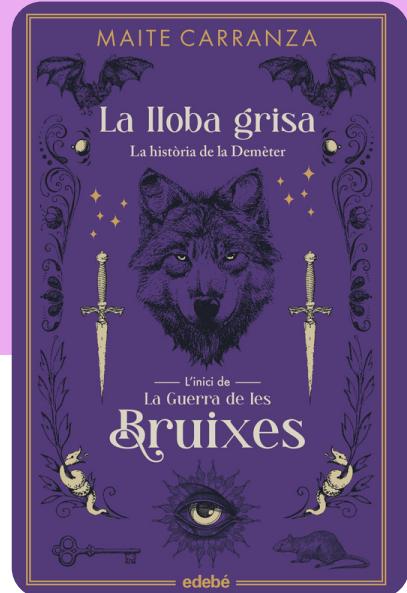
Original Language: Catalan | Spain

Publisher: Grupo Edebé | Spain

Publishing date: 2023

Number of pages: 459

Recommended age: 12+



From one of the best selling Catalan-language YA authors

Potential funding available to support the translation and promotion of the book

**A thrilling Mediterranean witchy fantasy
grounded in Greek mythology by one of the the
best selling Catalan-language authors ever**

About the author

Maite Carranza (Barcelona, 1958) holds a degree in Anthropology. After a period of teaching, she devoted her career to writing. Since then she has published more than 60 books and received recognition at home and abroad: Folch i Torres, Joaquim Ruyra, Critics Prize Serra d'Or, edebé Children's, edebé Young-Adult, White Ravens, Protagonista Jove, Banco libro Caracas, as well as the Spanish National Award in 2011. In 2014 she also received the Cervantes Chico Award for her entire career in children and young adult literature. Her books for children and young adults have been translated to more than 30 languages, making her probably the most translated Spanish children's author. www.maticcarranza.com

About the Publisher

Barcelona-based Grupo Edebé are a leading publisher in Spain. You can read more about the publishing scene in Spain with input from Rights Manager Georgia Picanyoll here in an article I wrote for [The Spanish Riveter](#)

Publishing Rights

World English language rights are available.

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MAITE CARRANZA // CATALONIA

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Overview

For YA fantasy lovers everywhere, Maite Carranza's **The Silver Wolf** weaves together witchcraft and Greek mythology, following Demeter's role in the battle between the witch clans of the Omar and the Odish. Growing up, Demeter is famed for her ability to read the future in the waters, but is unaware of where she gets her powers from – in an attempt to protect her daughter from her own traumatic past, her mother has concealed her true identity. All that begins to change when her fame draws the curiosity of Thea, one of the most powerful of the Odish witches, the opposing clan to her Omar heritage. Their rivalry stirs up the hatred against witchcraft and women that has been simmering beneath the surface among the inhabitants on the small Greek island where Demeter lives, destroying her childhood and forcing her to confront the realities of an age-old prophecy. The novel also tackles relevant themes of misogyny, jealousy, betrayal and the complex relationships between women.

While readable as a standalone novel, this book also forms the prequel to one of the best-selling YA trilogies ever written in Catalan – The War of the Witches – which has sold over a million copies, with 29 translations in 27 territories. Celebrating 20 years since publication of the original trilogy and a TV series on national TV in the pipeline, *The Silver Wolf* tells how it all began....

The release of *The Silver Wolf* hit the headlines in Spain, being featured on the front cover of *La Vanguardia* newspaper in both Spanish and Catalan followed by a double spread article inside.



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Proposal for The Silver Wolf

The War of the Witches trilogy - for which this is the prequel - has been published in English. In 2009, Bloomsbury USA bought the rights and published book one in a translation from the Spanish original. However, many of the reviews of this book comment on the poor quality of the translation and the publisher in Spain believes this is a reason for its less-than-expected performance in English, despite excellent sales of over a million copies worldwide.

My proposal for **The Silver Wolf** would be to publish this book as a standalone novel. We can shout about this as the first YA book translated from Catalan - the War of the Witches was translated from the Spanish, not the Catalan. I propose to translate from the Catalan version.

If this book is successful, the English rights for the trilogy have now reverted back to the publisher in Spain and could be an option further down the line. To celebrate the release of **The Silver Wolf**, *The War of the Witches* has been re-edited and published as a newly updated edition and is being made into a TV series for national television.

Sample Translation

Given the success of the original trilogy, the publisher is keen to place this in English. They have already undertaken a sample translation of *The Silver Wolf* (not translated by me) and also have an updated sample of the first book of the trilogy, both supported financially by the Ramon Llull Institute. The sample is available through me on request.

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Themes

Greek Mythology

Carranza's adventure is grounded in Greek mythology, specifically **Athena** and her relationship with **Medusa**. In Carranza's story, Athena has survived centuries as one of the most powerful Greek goddesses and now presents herself as Thea (Ate in the original text). Our protagonist **Demeter** traces a connection between Thea's current behaviour - jealousy and greed - back to the Greek myth that Athena demanded Perseus to cut off Medusa's head as a gift to prove his love. In Demeter's version of events, Athena has Medusa killed, not due to hate, but due to jealousy - Athena was in love with Medusa and Medusa left her, leaving Athena feeling betrayed.

Witchcraft

The witches are split into two opposing clans: Odish and Omar. The Odish actively seek out the Omar to destroy them. There are numerous covens of Omar witches around Europe and beyond that are in hiding, both from humans and from the Odish witches. Our protagonist Demeter comes from a long line of Omar witches and there is prophecy that states that one day a witch will be born who will put an end to the conflict: The Silver Wolf, Demeter.

Women against women

One of the themes that really stood out for me was how cruel women can be to other women and the power we have to do good if we come together. There are so many instances of jealousy and cruelty that could be avoided in society if we women were kinder and more supportive of each other and I feel this is well represented through the opposing covens.

Misogyny

Demeter's father is cruel and violent towards her mother as well Demeter and her sister. Having disappeared for many years, her father reappears, and fuelled by drink and a feeling of failure, he demands her mother hand over all her hard-earned savings. In one savage attack, he kills Demeter's mother. Once Demeter comes into her powers and discovers the friendship of the witches coven, she plots revenge in the form of a stone that appears every year on the same date - the date he killed his wife - tormenting him as he grows old.

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