



# Errors of Evaluation

By Paola Pica

## PRESS RELEASE

*Her husband, her cousin and her shrink; three people profoundly affected by the spoiled and enigmatic Francesca reveal their stories in this enthralling new book about life, love and the Italian upper class.*

**“A thing of beauty is joy forever.”**

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John Keats

Francesca's presence pervades the lives of everyone she meets. From the therapist - an ambiguous and even more unscrupulous person than herself - to the husband who, after twenty years of marriage, is left financially ruined and suicidal; and her own cousin, who despite tirelessly attempting to help her in a time of need, has been left betrayed on two separate occasions a

decade apart. Three very different characters tell their story about the inscrutable woman who has entered their lives, each one offering their own point of view on who the beautiful Francesca really is. Each has made an error of evaluation which they now realise has prejudiced their lives and their relationships. An omniscient narrator will have the final say.

Absorbing and reflective, **Errors of Evaluation** by the Italian writer Paola Pica has been translated into English by Janice Burberry for the first time. An exquisite exploration of human behaviour and relationships, it forces readers to analyse their own decisions, questioning whether they are superficial or have a deeper rationale behind them. Pica's psychologically astute portrayals of her characters and their interplay with the allusive Francesca are born from a lifetime of observing how people operate and interact; her writing encourages us to be vigilant when choosing the people we allow to enter - and remain - in our own lives. While it is tempting to base a life on beauty alone, especially in an age of constant obsession over image, Pica warns that this not the path to fulfilment.

The novel expertly depicts the social and daily mores of the Italian upper classes, revealing both the artifice and the truths that lie beneath it all. Lovers of intelligent women's commercial fiction will be hooked by Pica's thought-provoking, emotionally driven narratives, which ruminate on the important themes of wealth, beauty, betrayal and psychological ruin.

**About the author:** Living just outside Rome, Italy, Paola Pica has studied and worked extensively in England and her homeland as a translator and interpreter. Today she works for various embassies in Rome, as well as focusing on her writing. She is the author of five novels and one short story collection. **Errors of Evaluation** by Paola Pica (published 26<sup>th</sup> July 2016 by Clink Street Publishing, RRP £6.99 paperback, £2.99 ebook) is available to buy online from retailers including [amazon.co.uk](http://amazon.co.uk) and can be ordered from all good bookstores.

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