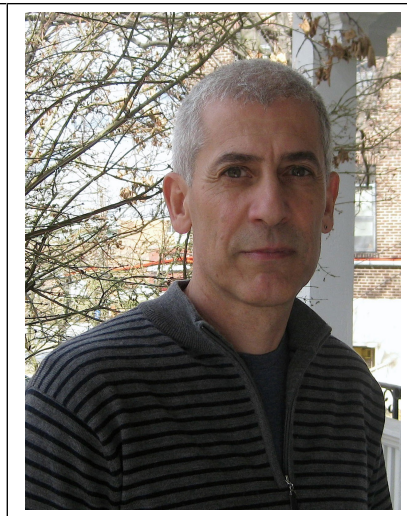


HB Hispabooks Publishing



NOTHING
HAPPENS

EVER

*Translated by Philip H. D. Smith and
Graziella de Luis*

5,5 x 8,5" / 324 pp.

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Carmela and Nico lead a comfortable life in a nice house in the suburbs with their little girl, Berta, their dog, Laika and Olivia, the young Ecuadorian home help. They have all settled into a cosy routine, as day follows day in a peaceful, middle-class pattern in which nothing ever happens. Or does it?

When Olivia arrives one morning to find blood stains at the entrance of the house, a trail of footprints through the snow leads her and Nico to a discovery that not only slams home the terrifying fragility of life as it shifts suddenly and unexpectedly, but also the simple fact that appearances can be deceptive. Sometimes, beneath the surface calm, there's a huge storm brewing.

So, the author takes us calmly, page by page, through the various aspects of each character, peeling away their masks as he goes, until by the end we are left

with a stripped landscape revealing the tangled web of hidden stories that lurk beneath the apparent normality. All it takes is someone with a keen eye – someone like José Ovejero – looking through a random keyhole, to show that behind every door, at every moment ... something always happens.

José Ovejero has published novels, collections of short stories, travel books, poetry and drama. He has been awarded a variety of prizes such as the Ciudad de Irún prize for his poetry book *Biografía del explorador* (1994); the Grandes Viajeros prize for the travel book *China para hipondriacos* (1998); the Primavera prize for the novel *Las vidas ajenas* (2005); the Ramón Gómez de la Serna prize for *La comedia Salvaje* (2011); the Anagrama prize for his essay *La ética de la crueldad* (2012); and the Alfaguara Prize for the novel *La invención del amor* (2013). His books have been translated to several languages.

His articles and short stories have been published in many journals, magazines, and anthologies in Spain and abroad. He has given lectures and directed creative writing workshops in universities and cultural institutions in Spain, Italy, USA, Belgium, France, Argentine, Mexico, Ecuador, etc. He lives now mainly in Madrid.

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