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Modern Naples is a city teeming with contradictions. A chaotic metropolis in which modernity collides with history, it is also a frenetic port city whose inhabitants are as volatile as the city itself. From this rough mix Parrella has drawn the four exceptional novellas that comprise *For Grace Received*. The stories in his collection represent some of the finest short fiction to have emerged from Italy in recent years. This is the UK debut of a remarkable new literary talent.

Valley of Rubies
Crimson the Dragon
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This Dragon Tale is about CRIMSON, a young dragonling who lives in a lair on the top of Lonely Mountain. Crimson is no ordinary dragon. He has a special power. He is the only dragon in the world whose scales turn to rubies when he sheds them. As the story begins, Crimson eagerly awaits the arrival of his mother, Black Tail Thunder. When his cave overflows of rubies his mother always comes to help move them to the Valley of Rubies. Meanwhile, in the Castle of Contentment Princess Penelope readies herself for her wedding, receiving a magical necklace that brings her good luck and protection from evil. The evil-minded Queen Malvainia attends their wedding with a devious plan to break up the happy pair. She plots to marry the charming prince for his treasure. After Crimson and his mother take the gems to the valley, they attend the grand wedding of the Prince Valentin and Princess Penelope. Trouble begins when Green Smasher the Gold Hoarder witnesses the transporting of the rubies. The evil dragon attacks the wedding party pulling the moonstone necklace off Penelope's neck, breaking the spell of protection before the wedding ceremony begins. She kidnaps the princess, demanding all the jewels in the Valley of Rubies as ransom, and flies the Princess to a hidden lair where her hatchling, Amethyst, stands guard. To make sure Penelope won't escape, Green Smasher uses magic to turn her into a mermaid. She threatens that the changes will be permanent unless her conditions are satisfied. Follow Crimson and the Prince on his quest to get the green dragon thief to release the Princess unharmed. Chaos erupts in the Kingdom of Nosmir once again. The fate of the rubies and Princess Penelope hang in the balance. Will evil triumph over good? Will the Princess's spell of protection save her? Will she stay a Mermaid forever? Join the adventure with Bracken Pepper Witch to turn the bride-to-be back into human form. Will the Princess Bride be returned to her Kingdom? Will the once happy couple be able to get married? Will the Queen win her fight for the groom and valuable jewels? Will the townspeople no longer have to fear the evil dragons? Will Crimson and the Prince save the Valley of Rubies? Find out about Green Smasher's thieving plans when you read the dragon tale. "Valley of Rubies" is the second book in the Crimson the Dragon Adventure series and teaches that love is more powerful than greed.

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