

La papallona negra

The Black Butterfly



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La papallona negra explores the passionate and obsessive relationship between Jordi, heir to Can Montalà, an old ancestral house in the Catalan countryside, and Martina, a disquietingly beautiful university student from Barcelona. At the beginning of a rainless autumn, Martina spends a weekend with friends in one of the rooms that the Montalà family have set up in their converted farmhouse.

The personal and family adventures — including the high erotic tension that sparks between the protagonists and the business of agro-tourism as a complement to traditional agricultural activities— follow different routes, as profit and loss, happiness and torment, splendour and ruin alternate in this novel about tragic beauty, which also functions as a metaphor for the death of a system of rural life that has been around for generations.

Written with the sound and the strength of a living language, *La papallona negra* continues a panoramic narrative, initiated in *Terres de lloguer*, about the profound economic and social transformations that people in the Catalan countryside are undergoing.

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