

## **MIST (*Nebbia*)**

by Marta Palazzesi

**Year of Publication:** 2019

**Pages:** 154

**Target age group:** Middle grade

**Genre:** Fiction

**Publisher and country of origin:** Il Castoro Editrice, Italy

**Original Language:** Italian

**Foreign rights:** Andreina Speciale, [speciale@editriceilcastoro.it](mailto:speciale@editriceilcastoro.it); Rebecca

Mombelli, [mombelli@editriceilcastoro.it](mailto:mombelli@editriceilcastoro.it)

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**About:** Set in 1880 Victorian London, *Nebbia* tells the story of 13-year-old “mudlark,” Clay, who survives by scrounging along the banks of the Thames for objects to sell. Mentored by Old Sal, he and his friends defend their patch of territory while trying to avoid being snatched up for the local workhouse. When a traveling circus comes to town, Clay finds his spirit captured by a magnificent, untamed, caged wolf, naming him Nebbia. Advertised as the last living wolf in the UK, Nebbia is mistreated by the animal handlers, who toss his cage into a ditch, leaving the trapped wolf to perish. But he does not. Clay finds out, saves Nebbia, and returns him to his distant home. With an impeccable sense of time and place, *Nebbia* is a suspense-filled adventure of friendship and perseverance, of yearning for freedom and finding oneself that will resonate strongly with middle grade readers. The book won the 2020 *Premio Strega Ragazze e Ragazzi* (Strega Prize for Children’s Literature) for readers age 6-10.

*Nanette McGuinness is an award-winning opera and is the translator of over 70 books and graphic novels for children and adults from Italian, French, German, and occasionally Spanish into English, including the well-known Geronimo Stilton Graphic Novels; her translation of Luisa: Now and Then was a 2019 Stonewall Honor Book and a 2020 GLLI Translated YA Book Prize Honor Book.*

*Email: [athenatranslations@nanette.biz](mailto:athenatranslations@nanette.biz) Website: [athenatranslations.nanette.biz](http://athenatranslations.nanette.biz)*