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*Alberi sapienti, antiche foreste*

*Wise trees, ancient forests*

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A narrative that will change the reader's glance  
over the vegetable world

Plants account for 98% of the biomass, that is of all the living forms on our Planet: so as to say they have had a tremendous success. It is from them that our lives and that of other animals depend.

Yet we still know very little about them.

After forty years working in the forests of Italy as a forest technician, and after having passed through the oldest forests in Europe, Daniele Zovi chooses to look closely, within the varied vegetable world, to the most evolved elements: the trees. And his is a narrative on and about trees. He explains that they come into contact with each other, with animals, and with us; they are aware of what surrounds them, the environment they live in; communicate by sending and receiving messages; they make relationships of friendship, are solid, have sex; compete and fight between specimens of their own or different species; they have vision, touch, smell and more. They fall asleep in the evening and wake up in the morning. They work out strategies of life, conquest, and resistance. They look more like us than we are led to believe.

*Of course they are not like animals. They do not have a brain that coordinates information, nor a nervous system that transmits signals to various organs. However, news on light, soil composition, and the attack of parasites are circulating within the individual and, surprisingly, even among different individuals. The different parts of the plant are closely linked and information is constantly exchanged. They have no eyes, but they see. They do not have a nose but they smell. They have no ears, but they hear. They remember, sleep, love, show sympathies and dislikes. There are many ways of being "intelligent," that is, adapting, communicating, having relationships, reproducing, interpreting data, solving problems.*

**Daniele Zovi**

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**PREVIOUS BOOKS:** *LUPI E UOMINI. IL GRANDE PRESATORE È TORNATO*, (2012)