

Pacho

Characters

Maddalena (78) is blissfully content in her golden years, moving through life with the steady rhythm of a well-rehearsed routine. A creature of habit, she shares her predictably quiet days with her loyal sidekick, Pacho the cat. Time for Maddalena and Pacho is measured in small, sacred rituals: breakfast at the same hour, plants cared for like treasures, historical anecdotes shared with anyone who'll listen, and daily gossip with her partner in crime, Anna—all within the comfort of the building she's called home for decades.

Maddalena is a woman who has always placed her independence above everything else. She never married, never had children, but as a teacher and later as a neighbour, she became a cornerstone of the community. The only being she has ever allowed herself to depend on is her cat, whose loss might just upend the very foundations of her world.

Pacho (17) is a black-and-white cat, the kind you'd more likely find as a kitten roaming the countryside than perched in the window of an expensive pet shop. He loves his kibbles, his naps, and his human, Maddalena. While she's constantly worrying about him, it's really him who's been looking out for her all these years. In fact, in human years, he'd be the older one.

Anna (76) is both a mother and a grandmother, Maddalena's closest friend—and, of course, Pacho's honorary aunt. She's long admired Maddalena's fierce independence and unyielding will, though, admittedly, she sometimes finds it a bit... much. Anna, who's convinced she knows what's best for everyone, has a delightful tendency to make the "right" choice for those she loves—whether they ask for it or not, and regardless of whether they have any intention of following it.

Giulio and Sabrina, are the quintessential millennial couple, pregnant with their first child and brimming with all the existential dread and Instagrammable moments that come with it.

Giulio (33) is the son of one of Maddalena's old friends, the man who rented her the apartment, and he's known Maddalena since childhood, she's always been like a beloved aunt to him. He doesn't want to put her in a tough spot, but, alas, becoming an adult means making those oh-so-difficult decisions for the sake of the family.

Sabrina (33), on the other hand, has no interest in getting too involved in Giulio's family drama. After all, bringing a child into a world that seems to be self-combusting by the day... well, that feels like enough responsibility already.