Abstract – More than twenty-five years after the release of the Italian edition of Nino Ricci’s first novel, Lives of The Saints, on the occasion of the writer’s return to Molise (a region from which the writer and I both come), this paper recalls my first encounter in Canada with the book and the editorial events of the other two subsequent books: In The Glass House and Where She Has Gone. Its aim is to confirm the unique and emblematic value that the trilogy has assumed in the panorama of Italian-Canadian literature, describing a compelling journey of discovery epitomized by the translation of the three novels. My conclusions will maintain that each translation represents, above all, the means through which a book will continue its tour in the world. Particularly, in the case of Italian Canadian writers, the translation into Italian also means a “returning home” where Italian language, which is its natural vehicle, becomes “the language of return”.

Keywords: Nino Ricci, La terra del ritorno, Vite dei santi, La casa di vetro, Il fratello italiano