

## Transcript

Interview with Igiaba Scego, *La mia casa è dove sono*

**Igiaba Scego:** My name is Igiaba Scego. I was born in Rome. I'm a writer and journalist. Writing always comes from an urgency, from something that you want to tell others. What I wanted to tell the world and to Italy, above all, was the multiple being. The multiple identity that one feels from various places. I feel Somali, I feel Italian.

Rather than a writer, I prefer to say about myself that I'm a collector of stories. I've written the novels *Rhoda*, *Oltre Babilonia*, and my latest one is a memoir. It's the first time that I've written something autobiographical: *La mia casa è dove sono*, published by Rizzoli. I wanted to tell of an immigration journey through the migration of my parents, but also, in a certain sense, my own. Even if you were born in Italy, you must still fight for your rights and above all, you might fight against stereotypes.

Recently I won the Mondello prize and the thing that really made me happy, for me and a lot of people, is that I won this prize for Italian literature and not just for multicultural literature. Italian literature is being encouraged somewhere else, so the literature prizes endorse something that already exists: readers know that the stories of the Other are also Italian stories, European stories, African stories. Thinking of them as completely different from one another doesn't make sense nowadays. We are united by language and we are united by dreams.