

ANTONIO ANNUNZIATA

THE NARRATOR'S VOICE
For the Sequence of

"Una volta era una bomboniera"
("Once Upon a Time It Was Like a Candy-Box")

It was during one of my endless wanderings
amidst the ruins of my ancestors' hometown,
that I once met an old man,
who approached me, while asking,
if I was interested in mount Vesuvius,
because he had often seen me
taking pictures of the volcano.

He suddenly began to tell me
about the strongest of its last eruptions,
more than 60 years ago,
as if it had just happened yesterday.

He was only I little boy then,
but the catastrophe hit his mind so heavily,
that he would never forget about it.

Soldiers from foreign areas on earth,
which were going to be invaded by the spreading nuclear pollution,
had occupied the territory around mount Vesuvius.

Because of the region's poverty,
resistance was weak, and support from Outer Space
still on attendance.

But then the volcano exploded.

And the occupiers,
in their panic believing,
that it must be the enemy,
pointed their weapons
right at the volcano – shooting back at him!