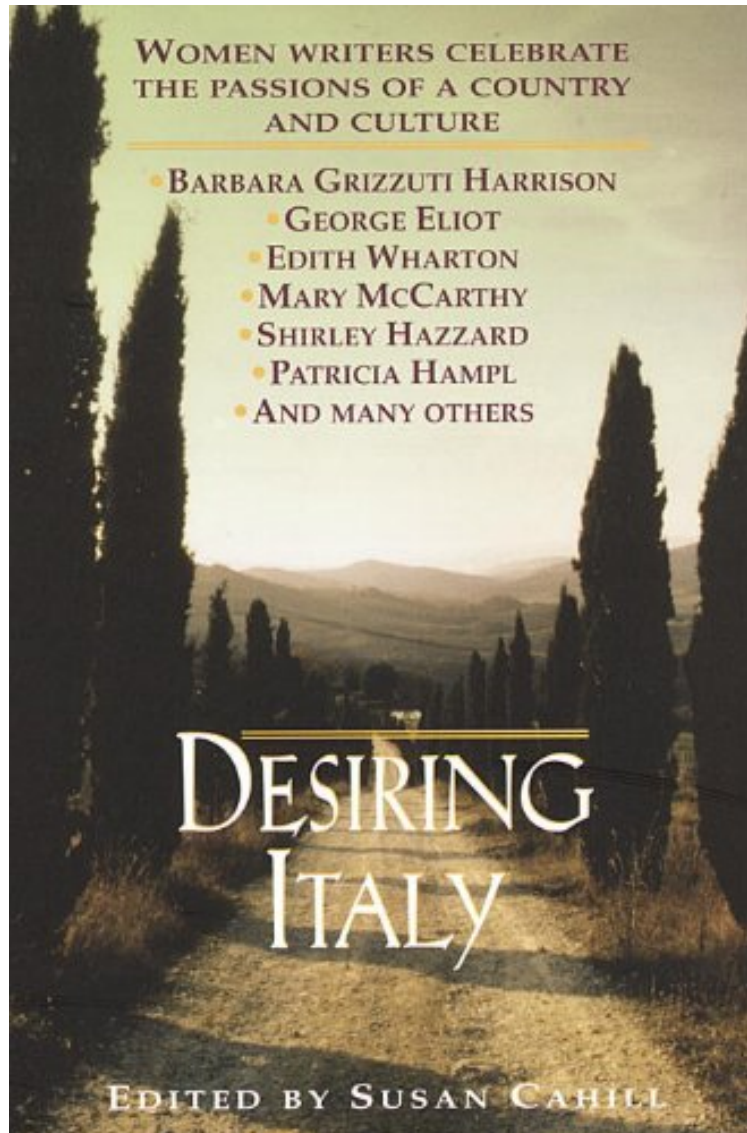


[Free pdf] Desiring Italy: Women Writers Celebrate the Passions of a Country and Culture

Desiring Italy: Women Writers Celebrate the Passions of a Country and Culture

Von Susan Cahill

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Von Susan Cahill : Desiring Italy: Women Writers Celebrate the Passions of a Country and Culture before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Desiring Italy: Women Writers Celebrate the Passions of a Country and Culture:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A

wonderful companion Von saliero I love Italy and I love this book. It is arranged in regional sections, but that is not entirely relevant because the pieces range over time and subject. For example, in the section on The Veneto there is an excerpt from Marcella Hazan's 'Classic Italian Cookbook' (incidentally, one of the very finest cookbooks - a lovely literary work, and the recipes work too!) - on Italian Cooking: where does it come from? The Italian art of eating, restaurants The bacaro experience, gelati. Simply scrumptious. The other contributors are the very best of literature: Edith Wharton, Francine Prose, Maty Shelley, Jan Morris, Muriel Spark (one of my favourite evocations and lived experiences: Venice in Fall and Winter), Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, Elizabeth von Arnim, Francesca Alexander, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, George Eliot, Mary McCarthy, Kate Simon, Iris Origo, Lisa St Aubin de teran, Patricia Hampl, Florence Nightingale, Margaret Fuller, Eleanor Clark, Elizabeth Bowen, Elizabeth Spencer, Rose Macaulay, Shirley Hazzard, Ann Cornelisen, Barbara Grizzuti Harrison, Mary Taylor Simeti. Each contribution is preceded by some brief contextual information on the author's piece. It is not 'biographical' in the sense of being a recitation of dates and places and events, more a little about the author's motivations or expressed thoughts about Italy or the subject at hand. After the excerpt is a guide for the traveller - a little more about the places, people or events mentioned in the passage. This is the sort of book that inspires a lust for travel, or becomes a treasured travel companion. It is one of the most 'lovingly' edited books I have ever read. Many anthologies contain an imbalance of male to female writers, and more men are travel writers, so this volume is particularly delightful. The editor elaborates on aspects of places that are particularly concerned with the cultural history of women. One of the reasons to produce a book using women writers is expressed by Susan Cahill (editor): "The women writers who love Italy take a different tone from what we hear in the travel notebooks of Dickens, Hawthorne or Henry James. The women's narratives come across with a down-to-earth concreteness. They're irreverent, critical and anecdotal but never brittle, mean-spirited or smug at the Italians' expense.... No narrator observes safely from a cool, aesthetic all-knowing distance. Rather, their affection for the place and people moves the current of the prose." I love this book. Maybe you will too. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. revealing, enchanting, complex, seductive Von Ein Kunde Crossing the dark waters from Venice on route to the Lido, I watched a woman so intent upon her reading that she seemed oblivious to the haunting beauty visible in all directions. As we slowed in our approach to the landing area, I asked her what she was reading. It was *Desiring Italy*, she said, given to her by her mother in anticipation of this trip. I recorded it in my journal and it was the first book that I bought upon arriving home. Written by a group of women writers, it is a joyous celebration of all things Italian. It evokes cultural traditions, artistic impressions and history and lyrically describes the glories of the places that you visit. How fortunate the traveler who has this book as a traveling companion. Just as Venice's twisting alleyways and canals create a desire for roving, so does this anthology lure you to a restlessness and passion for "la dolce vita". The autobiographical slant resonates with how Italy has imprinted itself in the hearts and souls of the women who write of it in this book. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An inspiring travelling companion Von Ein Kunde "Desiring Italy" became my inseparable travelling companion across Italy, after I found it by chance at a Roman bookstore. Not only it suggests special places to visit that are not always listed in traditional guides, it also makes them alive through their portrayal by literary masters (all women) that add their elegance, their sensitivity, their intelligence to that of the readers'. An added bonus was that I got to make their literary works real in my mind by following the steps of the characters in these magnificent settings (as Dorothea in "Middlemarch", for example).

Kurzbeschreibung For centuries Italy has been many things to many people. In this brilliant anthology and traveler's companion, twenty-eight first-rate women writers reveal why the land that is the heart and soul of European civilization is so seductive to women. Kate Simon walks us through a Siena filled with surprises and luminous beauty. Elizabeth Spencer writes of first coming to Italy and finding "home." Shirley Hazzard explores the mysteries of Naples. Muriel Spark writes on Venice, Edith Wharton on Rome, George Eliot on Florence, Barbara Grizzuti Harrison on San Gimignano, Patricia Hampl on Assisi. Other wonderful writers contemplate the idiosyncratic glories of Italy's architecture, cooking, art, and landscape; its culture; its places and people. As these writers tell their stories--in fiction, memoir, and essay--of coming to understand Italy, they explore the complexity of their passions for it, mingling affection and ecstasy with intellectual curiosity. Organized geographically--from northern Italy to Rome and on to the south, *Desiring Italy* offers an enchanting journey for readers and travelers. Including the following contents: From Italian Backgrounds: Picturesque Milan by Edith Wharton Cauliflower Heads by Francine Prose From Rambles in Germany and Italy: Letters from Venice by Mary Shelley From The World of Venice: On Women by Jan Morris From The Classic Italian Cookbook: Preface, Italian Cooking: Where Does It Come From?, The Italian Art of Eating, Restaurants, The Bacaro Experience, Gelati Venice in Fall and Winter by Muriel Spark From Embassy to Constantinople: To Lady Mar by Lady Mary Wortley Montagu From The Enchanted April: VI, VIII by Elizabeth von Arnim From Roadside Songs of Tuscany: The Ballad of Saint Zita, A Tuscan Lullaby by Francesca Alexander From Casa Guidi Windows: Casa Guidi Windows, Bellosguardo by Elizabeth Barrett Browning From Romola: Proem From

The Stones of Florence: V From Italy: The Places in Between: Siena From Images and Shadows: La Foce from War in Val D'Orcia: An Italian War Diary 1943-1944 by Iris Origo From A Valley in Italy: The Many Seasons of a Villa in Umbria: I, VI by Lisa St. Aubin de Tern Umbrian Spring by Patricia Hampl From Florence Nightingale in Rome: Letter VI From Dispatches from Europe to the New York Tribune, 1846-1850: Dispatch 14, Dispatch 19, Dispatch 30 From Middlemarch: The Wedding Journey by George Eliot Roman Fever by Edith Wharton From Rome and a Villa: Fountains by Eleanor Clark From A Time in Rome: The Smile by Elizabeth Bowen From The Light in the Piazza: Introduction The White Azalea by Elizabeth Spencer From Pleasure of Ruins by Rose Macaulay From The Bay of Noon: I, IV, VIII by Shirley Hazzard From Torregreca: Life, Death, Miracles: The Setting, A Night at San Fortunato, The Project Realized, Epilogue by Ann Cornelisen From The Islands of Italy: Sicily, Palermo by Barbara Grizzuti Harrison From On Persephones Island: A Sicilian Journal: Prologue, Winter by Mary Taylor Simeti.

When literary art meets the warmth, beauty, and culture of Italy, the results are stupifyingly wonderful. Susan Cahill has gathered jewels of writing, penned by 31 women of letters, inspired by Italy. There's Muriel Spark on Venice, Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Mary McCarthy on Florence, Florence Nightingale and George Eliot on Rome, Edith Wharton on Milan, and Mary Taylor Simeti on Sicily. All together Cahill's arranged a beautiful antipasti plate of the impact--on the mind, the spirit, and above all the senses--of Italy.

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