

Raised Italian American

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[#Italian American upbringing](#)

Explore the unique experience of being raised Italian American, a journey steeped in rich cultural heritage and deeply ingrained traditions. This identity is often shaped by strong family values, vibrant community ties, and a celebration of both Italian roots and American life, creating a distinct and cherished cultural tapestry.

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Raised Italian-American

Raised Italian-American remembers the history, stories, traditions, and values of growing up in an Italian neighborhood. One of my fondest memories as a child was to take a ride and view the beautiful nativity scenes that were erected throughout the neighborhood each Christmas. The popularity of these large statues, they are called presepi in Italy, started in Italy in the 17th century when it was fashionable to find them in palaces and homes of wealthy citizens. The newfound enthusiasm of erecting a presepi during Christmas may be contributed to Saint Gaetano who openly encouraged people to create the presepi as a sign of devotion. It wasn't until the later part of the 19th century that these presepi became a part of family traditions in nearly every home in Italy. This set is a beautiful piece of art and is a prized possession of the families that own them. I know that Phyllis' grandmother cherished her presepi until the day she died and the family still think fondly of their grandmother every time they see it at Christmas time.

Italians in the Deep South

River City Press re-releases this popular book, published under our Black Belt imprint, featuring new introductory material, new photos, and a new dust jacket. Fede (Fee-dee) was raised in Birmingham's Little Italy. He tells us how labor shortages drew Italian immigrants to Birmingham's coal and steel industries. These new Americans quickly became farmers, grocers, and merchants, and the next generation became doctors, bankers, and lawyers. Their collective history helped shape the culture of the growing city, which was enriched by their contributions to religion, sports, art, commerce, and politics.

A Letter to My Children

An inspiring story unfolds throughout this book of the rich history, culture and ties that bind and define a family of Italian descent, all written through the unique perspective of a letter to the author's children. A masterful way to educate her children about their heritage and instill in them an appreciation and understanding of what makes them unique as third and fourth generation Italian Americans, the "Letter" explores the common themes and differences between Northern and the Sicilian and Southern Italian cultures, social and economic influences, and family structure. With a particular focus on the role of the Italian woman as the heart of the entire ethnic group, as elevated rather than oppressed, as the "giver of life"

Growing Up Italian-american

SECOND EDITION -- February 2018 -- Preface to the Second Edition: Since its original publication, I have been extremely gratified by the positive reception the book has received not only from the Italian-American Community but also from the general public. In this, its second edition, I have expanded the original book by adding more stories taken from my parents' memoirs and new stories about growing up in College Point and living in Italy. With a view to making it a more complete resource for Americans with an Italian heritage, I have also further explored Italian-American history, traditions, folklore, and culture. Description of the First Edition: "To know who you are, you need to know from whence you came." This book contains the stories of three generations of Italian-Americans. It represents over one hundred and fifty years of family history. It traces the trials, tribulations, and triumphs of the Baratta family from Padula and the Visco family from Vico Equense, both of whom settled in Manhattan and subsequently moved to Brooklyn, Queens, and Long Island. The stories, which were taken from family memoirs and transcripts, are told by those who lived them in their own words and are placed in historical context. The book also includes the memoirs of the author which describe growing up in College Point N.Y. in the 40s, 50s, and 60s, going to medical school in Italy and living in that country, finding his roots in his ancestral Italian hometowns, and practicing cardiology in New York City. Profusely illustrated, with maps and photographs on almost every page, this reader-friendly 434-page book, which was five years in the making, is a celebration of Italian-American culture. It explores Italian-American history, traditions, folklore, customs, music, food, values, and humor. The book also contains Italian proverbs and features recipes from Padula and Vico Equense. Please scroll up and buy the book. Enjoy, recall, and relive, depending on your age, the joys of growing up Italian-American in the 40s, 50s, and 60s, try the recipes, and journey with the Viscos and the Barattas as they emigrated from Italy in the early 1900s and made something of themselves and their children in America.

Italians in Los Angeles

Over 568,000 Italian Americans live in the Greater Los Angeles area--95,000 within the city itself making the Italian American population in Los Angeles the fourth largest in the United States. Unlike many other American cities with a nuclear "Little Italy," the Italian American community of Los Angeles has extended in all directions, gracing the entire region with its rich gifts and talents in art, architecture, banking, engineering, literature, cuisine, winemaking, and film. Italian men and women of knowledge, courage, and insight have embraced these industries to make life better for future generations. This book provides a glimpse into the Italian heritage that lies at the heart and soul of Los Angeles. To honor each individual contribution would require many volumes; the people and businesses profiled in this book are representations of the vast Italian community that is woven into the tapestry of Los Angeles.

Yo Capeesh!

Yo Capeesh!!!! is a humorous, nostalgic, educational and sentimental guide to Italian Americana. It was written in a way that would appeal to many of the 25 million Italian Americans and those familiar with them. It is especially useful for those individuals smitten with the Italian American media. Using humor as its main focus, portions of the book are educational and can be used by all as a reference. It not only addresses Italian American heroes, songs and traditions but also phonetically and occasionally pictorially defines typical clichés, mannerisms, speech and food used in movies, TV and the stereotypical Italian American home. For those who are infatuated with the Mob, a chapter entitled How the boys say it explains many of the expressions and origins of organized crime vernacular. This chapter was included because of the somewhat crazed interest for this media genre and is sensitive to the majority of Italian Americans it does not represent. Briefly, Yo Capeesh!!!! is a whimsical, entertaining guide that has widespread appeal not only for Italian Americans but also for those who are interested in the allure and mystique of this unique and pervasive sub-culture.

Sense of Origins

In *Sense of Origins*, Rosemary Serra explores the lives of a significant group of self-identified young Italian Americans residing in New York City and its surrounding areas. The book presents and examines the results of a survey she conducted of their values, family relationships, prejudices and stereotypes, affiliations, attitudes and behaviors, and future perspectives of Italian American culture. The core of the study focuses on self-identification with Italian cultural heritage and analyzes it according to five aspects—physical, personality, cultural, psychological, and emotional/affective. The data provides insights into today's young Italian Americans and the ways their perception of reality in everyday interactions is affected by their heritage, while shedding light on the value and symbolic references that come with an Italian heritage. Through her rendering of relevant facets that emerge from the study, Serra constructs interpretative models useful for outlining the physiognomy and characterization of second, third, fourth, and fifth generations of Italian Americans. In the current climate, questions of ethnicity and migrant identity around the world make *Sense of Origins* useful not only to the Italian American community but also to the descendants of the innumerable present-day migrants who find themselves living in countries different from those of their ancestors. The book will resonate in future explorations of ethnic identity in the United States.

Old Bread, New Wine

An Italian immigrant says, "I came to America because I heard the streets were paved with gold. When I got here, I found out three things: first, the streets weren't paved with gold; second, they weren't paved at all; and third, I was expected to pave them." Against all odds—a new language, new customs, and the ethnic slurs and catcalls of prejudice—Italian Americans paved the streets, rolled the cigars, sewed the clothes, cooked the meals, and did all manner of back-breaking work to build a new life in Lamerica, the land of success. The *Italian American Family Album* brings us into the heart of those immigrants' experiences. Through diaries, letters, interviews, and articles from magazines and newspapers we share the ordeals and the triumphs of the Italian American first setting foot on his new homeland. These personal accounts and family photographs of scores of Italian American families tell inspiring and courageous stories of hardship and suffering. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, the journey across the Atlantic was remembered by many as the *via dolorosa*, the "sorrowful way." And even after arriving in the new homeland and successfully getting through immigration, finding a job and a place to live, and learning new ways of doing almost everything was a challenge. But there was joy in the new country, as well. The new arrivals were embraced by a community of fellow Italians with a grand sense of humor, an intense appreciation of music, and an even greater appreciation of good food. Life for the newcomer was full of old traditions and pleasure, and we hear first-hand how the old ways endured even as new philosophies and customs were embraced daily. Through the stories of the children of those early immigrants—writers Gay Talese and John Ciardi, entertainers like Tony Bennett, baseball great Yogi Berra, and others not famous, but still proud to call themselves Italian Americans—we see how family pride and strong ties to the old country survive even today. As Governor Mario Cuomo says in his introduction: "I have always been intensely proud that I am the son of Italian immigrants and that my Italian heritage helped make me the man I am." That pride and the unique experiences of the early Italian Americans are an integral part of our country's history. Through the memories and photographs from the albums of generations of Italian families we meet real people, cut of the same cloth as we are—a many-colored and multi-textured cloth of ethnic customs, languages, traditions, and memories. We are a nation of immigrants, and *The Italian American Family Album* belongs to each of us.

The Italian American Family Album

The Heritage Edition in Color - October 2018 - Learn about your heritage. Profusely illustrated, with maps and photographs on almost every page, this reader-friendly, entertaining, 434-page book, which was five years in the making, tries to define what it means to be Italian-American. It explores Italian-American history, values, and culture including traditions, religion, language, folklore, customs, music, food, and humor. The book also contains Italian Proverbs, offers sage Italian-American advice, and features recipes from Padula and Vico Equense. It tells the stories of three generations of Italian-Americans and represents over one hundred and fifty years of family history. It traces the trials, tribulations, and triumphs of the Baratta family from Padula and the Visco family from Vico Equense, both of whom settled in Manhattan and subsequently moved to Brooklyn, Queens, and Long Island. The stories, which were taken from family memoirs and transcripts, are told by those who lived them in their own words and are placed in historical context. The book also includes the memoirs of the author which describe growing up in College Point, New York in the 40s, 50s, and 60s, going to medical school and living in Italy, finding his roots in his ancestral Italian hometowns, and practicing cardiology

in New York City. Since the author lived in Italy for almost six years, the book is also in part an Italian travelogue and contains descriptions, pictures, and interesting facts about many Italian cities including Padua, Venice, Florence, Rome, Naples, Pompeii, Capri, Vico Equense, the Amalfi Coast, and Padula. Please scroll up, buy the book, and experience the joys of growing up Italian-American. Try the recipes, and journey with the Viscos and the Barattas as they emigrated from Italy in the early 1900s and made something of themselves and their children in America. P.S. The book also makes a great gift.

Growing Up Italian-American

With the irreverence, gutsy spirit, and warmhearted hilarity that made *Pagan Babies* a classic, here is the Italian-American experience served up by the author who has been crowned the Patron Saint of Humor. Before the Sopranos, there were the Cascones.... *Life al Dente*, the new memoir from the author of *Pagan Babies*, brings the same wit and wonder to the telling of Gina Cascone's Italian-American girlhood...well, boyhood actually. In an Italian family, few things are a greater handicap than being born female, but Gina's Dad generously decided to overlook this shortcoming and raise Gina as a boy -- the son he always wanted. As lawyer to numerous "alleged" mobsters, Dad had some colorful clients who would regularly gather around the basement pool table to talk business, drink, and be hustled by junior high Gina. There was no way Gina was going to turn into one of the big hair girls of Italian-American stereotype, but her journey would have all the bumps that come with that cherished immigrant ambition of moving from steerage to the suburbs in three generations. That sense of dislocation came early for Gina as her family moved from the kind of neighborhood where old men play bocce and the pet frogs are named Nunzio to one where Barbies and frozen food prevail. And though Gina's brains got her into the top high school, she quickly made the lonely discovery that she was the only one there whose name ended in a vowel. In our overly pasteurized and homogenized world, there's a real hunger to find and celebrate our connection to old world roots and traditions. *Life al Dente* abounds in hilarious stories, but also rewards readers with a genuine and poignant contemplation of cultural identity.

Life Al Dente

Widely acclaimed as America's greatest living film director, Martin Scorsese is also, some argue, the pre-eminent Italian American artist. Although he has treated various subjects in over three decades, his most sustained filmmaking and the core of his achievement consists of five films on Italian American subjects - *Who's That Knocking at My Door?*, *Mean Streets*, *Raging Bull*, *GoodFellas*, and *Casino* - as well as the documentary *Italianamerican*. In *Gangster Priest* Robert Casillo examines these films in the context of the society, religion, culture, and history of Southern Italy, from which the majority of Italian Americans, including Scorsese, derive. Casillo argues that these films cannot be fully appreciated either thematically or formally without understanding the various facets of Italian American ethnicity, as well as the nature of Italian American cinema and the difficulties facing assimilating third-generation artists. Forming a unified whole, Scorsese's Italian American films offer what Casillo views as a prolonged meditation on the immigrant experience, the relationship between Italian America and Southern Italy, the conflicts between the ethnic generations, and the formation and development of Italian American ethnicity (and thus identity) on American soil through the generations. Raised as a Catholic and deeply imbued with Catholic values, Scorsese also deals with certain forms of Southern Italian vernacular religion, which have left their imprint not only on Scorsese himself but also on the spiritually tormented characters of his Italian American films. Casillo also shows how Scorsese interrogates the Southern Italian code of masculine honour in his exploration of the Italian American underworld or Mafia, and through his implicitly Catholic optic, discloses its thoroughgoing and longstanding opposition to Christianity. Bringing a wealth of scholarship and insight into Scorsese's work, Casillo's study will captivate readers interested in the director's magisterial artistry, the rich social history of Southern Italy, Italian American ethnicity, and the sociology and history of the Mafia in both Sicily and the United States.

Gangster Priest

Spit the Pit: An Italian-American Folktale is the story of two Italians who immigrate to New York, meet, and marry. Together in Little Italy, Peter and Rosa begin a family of three children. As the children grow, Peter and Rosa move further from the Italian neighborhood. As the years pass, the children have children of their own, and soon Peter and Rosa are the grandparents of twelve lively grandchildren. In an attempt to instill some Italian heritage in his grandchildren, Peter plays a game where the children eat Italian olives and then spit the pit in a contest to see who can get the pit the farthest in the clean

driveway. Soon the parents of the grandchildren get involved and introduce a new gamean American tradition. The children find themselves along with their parents enjoying watermelon and spitting seeds in a new contest. The prizes may be different, but everyone enjoys themselves as Grandma Rosa and Grandpa Peter observe. The final pages find Grandma supervising the cleanup of her driveway to the cheers of Bravo!

Spit the Pit

An overview of generations of Italians in the Big Apple, weaving together numerous stories from different epochs and different backgrounds. "If you want to learn something about Italian creativity, come to New York. Here, you will find the pride of flying the Italian colors at the Fifth Avenue Columbus Day Parade, the American patriotism of those who perished at Ground Zero, the courage of firefighters and marines on the frontline of the war against terrorism, the babel of dialects at the Arthur Avenue market, portrayals of social change in the writings of Gay Talese, stories of successful business ventures on the TV shows of Maria Bartiromo and Charles Gasparino, political passion in the battles of Mario Cuomo and Rudy Giuliani, creative imagination in the works of Gaetano Pesce, Renzo Piano and Matteo Pericoli, and provocation in the attire of Lady Gaga . . . The Midtown top managers, who arrived in the past twenty years, operate in the XXI century, while on Fresh Pond Road in Ridgewood the panelle are still prepared according to the Sicilian recipes transmitted from one generation to the next." —From the Introduction

The Italians of New York

First Published in 2000. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

The Italian American Experience

Documents the rich history of Italian American working women in Connecticut, including the crucial role they played in union organizing. Often treated as background figures throughout their history, Italian women of the lower and working classes have always struggled and toiled alongside men, and this did not change following emigration to America. Through numerous oral history narratives, *Farms, Factories, and Families* documents the rich history of Italian American working women in Connecticut. As farming women, they could keep up with any man. As entrepreneurs, they started successful businesses. They joined men on production lines in Connecticut's factories and sweatshops, and through the strength of the neighborhood networks they created, they played a crucial role in union organizing. Empowered as foreladies, union officials, and shop stewards, they saved money for future generations of Italian American women to attend college and achieve dreams they themselves could never realize. The book opens with the voices of elderly Italian American women, who reconstruct daily life in Italy's southern regions at the turn of the twentieth century. Raised to be caretakers and nurturers of families, these women lived by the culturally claustrophobic dictates of a patriarchal society that offered them few choices. The storytellers of *Farms, Factories, and Families* reveal the trajectories of immigrant women who arrived in Connecticut with more than dowries in their steam trunks: the ability to face adversity with quiet inner strength, the stamina to work tirelessly from dawn to dusk, the skill to manage the family economy, and adherence to moral principles rooted in the southern Italian code of behavior. Second- and third-generation Italian American women who attended college and achieved professional careers on the wings of their Italian-born mothers and grandmothers have not forgotten their legacy, and though Italian American immigrant women lived by a script they did not write, *Farms, Factories, and Families* gives them the opportunity to tell their own stories, in their own words. "Anthony Riccio's collection of women's oral histories is an extremely valuable addition to the growing literature regarding Italian American women's lives. The detail in which these women speak about their work lives as charcoal burners, clay kneaders, cheese makers, union organizers—one had her ribs broken—adds a much needed dimension to an understanding of Italian American women. This volume is filled with thoughtful reflections ranging from Mussolini to issues of social justice. Riccio has unleashed from these women dramatic and sometimes harrowing stories never before heard, or perhaps even imagined." — Carol Bonomo Albright, Executive Editor of Italian Americana and coeditor of *American Woman, Italian Style: Italian-Americana's Best Writings on Women* "What comes more naturally to the elderly but to reminisce? Riccio helps us eavesdrop on the first-person oral narratives of some of our earliest immigrants. We are grateful to him." — Luisa Del Giudice, editor of *Oral History, Oral Culture, and Italian Americans* "I have long awaited a book like this: a history of Italian American women, in which they themselves are the narrators of their own lives. We hear from women without

formal education; women who were workers, migrants, and mothers; women whose stories were often not valued enough to enter into the historical record, much less the archives. This beautifully conceived history is both a testament and a tribute to all working-class and im/migrant families and communities.” — Jennifer Guglielmo, author of *Living the Revolution: Italian Women's Resistance and Radicalism in New York City, 1880–1945*

Farms, Factories, and Families

A retired grandfather narrates a book of memoirs to his present and future descendants on life during the second half of the twentieth century. Each trip back in time is a stand-alone story laced in imagination and ends with some reflection and perspective. Papa, a baby boomer, takes the reader on a journey from growing up in a vibrant, ethnic neighborhood of the inner city of Cleveland, through an extraordinary adolescence, to raising his own family.

The Italian Americans

This is the story of my paternal great grandfather's immigration from Naples, Italy to Gloversville, New York in 1898. At age forty-seven Pasquale DaCorsi immigrated to America to make a better life for his family. He left his wife and sons behind in Italy with the plan of having them join him a few months later. As his ship arrives in the New York harbor his eyes immediately gaze at the majestic Statue of Liberty. He is brought to tears with the statue in full view as he realizes his new dawn is about to begin. This is his Alba Nuova. Alba Nuova, a new dawn, comes to life as Pasquale steps off the steamship SS Aller and steps foot onto American soil exclaiming that he has arrived. The story is a true life novel that tells of the new beginning for an immigrant who chose to come to America. The traditions of the Italian heritage and Italian culture from Pasquale's time have been passed down and maintained by family members generation after generation. Those traditions are captured throughout the story. If you enjoy Italian heritage, historical novels, reminiscing about your family culture, or just enjoy reading about a family who made America their home, this story is for you. If you are an Italian-American you will immediately connect with the story. Sunday family gatherings, weddings, social events, and the tales of the hard working Italian immigrants will bring back those memories from our grandparents and great-grandparents time. With the fast pace life we all experience in today's world, take some time to step back in time with Alba Nuova.

Papa a Journey Back

A retired grandfather narrates a book of memoirs to his present and future descendants on life during the second half of the twentieth century. Each trip back in time is a stand-alone story laced in imagination and ends with some reflection and perspective. Papa, a baby boomer, takes the reader on a journey from growing up in a vibrant, ethnic neighborhood of the inner city of Cleveland, through an extraordinary adolescence, to raising his own family.

Alba Nuova

John has lived in an Italian neighborhood during the 1930's and 40's. Nine stories are 80% factual, 20%fiction. Portrayed in the stories are pictures of authentic characters. Reviews by Joseph Nardiello Ph.D. associate professor of languages, states "stories of by gone days are amusing and poignant with a profound sense of Community. Mr. John Andreozzi, Sons of Italy archives coordinator Ma, MgW, Ma affirms "the books a priceless gift to those of use who did not grow up in little Italy. Immigrants from the mezzogorno southern part of Italy arrived in Buffalo to give economic opportunity and freedom to themselves their children and grandchildren. Nine stories in the 1920's and 1940's make alive their labors, foods they ate, wines they made, their joys, their sorrows. Come laugh, sing, eat, cry with us in memories of our parents, grandparents and the heritage they gave us. Reading these stories will absorb readers into truly experiencing living and breathing actualities of little Italy.

PAPA A JOURNEY BACK

Penfield Books showcases Italian Touches: Recipes and Traditions by Fred L. Gardaphe. Italian Touches incorporates Italian contributors: Mary Beth (Menna) Specht, Joeann (La Sorella) Tesar, David Wright, Don Fiore, Joseph Sciorra, PhD, and Jerome Krase, PhD, to explore Italian ways and traditions. Between 1870 and 1924, twelve million Italians left their native land. Nearly half of them came to America, seeking a new life that would be better than the grinding poverty of southern Italy. Now almost sixteen

million Americans claim Italian descent with the third, fourth, and fifth generations of Italian Americans retaining many of the values and the charm of their grandparents and great-grandparents. Theirs is a noble heritage. In terms of history, art, architecture, literature, and triumphs of the human soul, the Italian experience has been an inspiration to the western world. *Italian Touches* covers the Italian greats in history, religion, writers, literature, Italian American Organizations, the arts, architecture, dancing, film, theater, and more. Essays by Gardaphe include poignant writing about his Italian mother and father. Gardaphe is a distinguished professor of literature in New York. This book is a revision with updated and additional text from the title, *Italian American Ways*, released by HarperCollins about thirty years ago. Fred Gardaphe describes the rich family traditions and celebrations in such great detail you can almost smell the sauce steam rising from the page. One such family gathering, his Uncle plucked a meatball with his thumb and forefinger from Grandma's cooking pot in the kitchen. He walked back to the living room devouring the meatball with a sauce stained white shirt. When Fred tried the same, his Grandma emerged from the pantry and bounced a colander against his head and spouted, "Don't be a porco. We gonna eat now. The pasta she ready." Sixty-seven pages of delicious mouth-watering Italian family favorite recipes are included."

Growing Up Italian American

Oakland, the other city by the bay, was a magnet for Italian immigrants in the early decades of the 20th century. Some relocated from San Francisco after the devastating 1906 earthquake and fire; many more came to Oakland predominantly from Italy's northern regions of Piedmont, Liguria, and Lombardy in search of opportunity and prosperity. These pioneers worked hard, typically at backbreaking labor, to build new lives. They raised a generation of children who succeeded in their own right and contributed in various ways to their community and nation. As they established new roots and adopted new ways, congregating largely in north Oakland's vibrant and bustling Temescal neighborhood, these Italian Americans also nurtured their Old Country customs and traditions--many of which, along with rare glimpses of bygone days, are portrayed in this charming trip through time.

Italian Touches

The influence of Italians in American cuisine, industry, sports, entertainment, and language is profound. Using photographs to illustrate more than a century of Italian experiences in the United States, the author provides an intimate and informed glimpse into the history of prejudice, hardship, celebration, and success faced by this rich Mediterranean people. A celebration of common men and women alongside notable Italian American celebrities and public figures, this book is a cultural photo album.--From publisher description.

Blood of My Blood

This reference work details the saga of the Italian-American experience from immigration through assimilation to achievement.

Italian Oakland

Italians first settled in the Newark area in the 1880s. *Italian Americans of Newark, Nutley, and Belleville* shows these immigrants and their families from 1900 to the 1950s. The street peddler, the barber, the baker, the undertaker, the macaroni maker, the concert musician, and more are portrayed here in the grace and dignity of their work. Outings to the shore or Branch Brook Park balanced hard work and long hours. Family gatherings, weddings, first communions, and processions for the feasts of St. Gerard, St. Rocco, and St. Bartholomew were all a part of the life of the family and the vibrant Italian neighborhoods. More than 200 vintage photographs from family albums tell these stories.

The Journey of the Italians in America

How does an Italian become Italian? Or an Englishman English, for that matter? Are foreigners born, or made? In *An Italian Education* Tim Parks focuses on his own young children in the small village near Verona where he lives, building a fascinating picture of the contemporary Italian family at school, at home, at work and at play. The result is a delight: at once a family book and a travel book, not quite enamoured with either children or Italy, but always affectionate, always amused and always amusing.

Italian Americans

Richard Gambino, PhD, is the author of "Vendetta." He lives in New York.

Italian Americans of Newark, Belleville, and Nutley

This richly researched, beautifully illustrated volume illuminates an important, overlooked part of American history. From extensive archival materials and interviews with well-known Italian Americans, Maria Laurino strips away stereotypes and nostalgia to tell the complicated, centuries-long story of the true Italian-American experience. Looking beyond the familiar Little Italys and stereotypes fostered by *The Godfather* and *The Sopranos*, Laurino reveals surprising, fascinating lives: Italian-Americans working on sugar-cane plantations in Louisiana to those who were lynched in New Orleans; the banker who helped rebuild San Francisco after the great earthquake; families interned as "enemy aliens" in World War II. From anarchist radicals to "Rosie the Riveter" to Nancy Pelosi, Andrew Cuomo, and Bill de Blasio; from traditional artisans to rebel songsters like Frank Sinatra, Dion, Madonna, and Lady Gaga, this book is both exploration and celebration of the rich legacy of Italian-American life. Readers can discover the history chronologically, chapter by chapter, or serendipitously by exploring the trove of supplemental materials. These include interviews, newspaper clippings, period documents, and photographs that bring the history to life.

An Italian Education

The Routledge History of Italian Americans weaves a narrative of the trials and triumphs of one of the nation's largest ethnic groups. This history, comprising original essays by leading scholars and critics, addresses themes that include the Columbian legacy, immigration, the labor movement, discrimination, anarchism, Fascism, World War II patriotism, assimilation, gender identity and popular culture. This landmark volume offers a clear and accessible overview of work in the growing academic field of Italian American Studies. Rich illustrations bring the story to life, drawing out the aspects of Italian American history and culture that make this ethnic group essential to the American experience.

Italian-American Authors and Their Contribution to American Literature

To demonstrate the special place Italian immigrants hold in the city of New York to this day, readers will experience a visual tour of their traditions and landmarks. New York City's five boroughs have been home to more Italian immigrants than any other place in America. Over the last 140 years, scores of Italian neighborhoods have spanned Manhattan, Brooklyn, Staten Island, Queens, and the Bronx. These communities preserve their heritage by celebrating special events and feasts, such as Manhattan's 130-year-old Feast of St. Rocco, the Dance of the Giglio in East Harlem and Williamsburg, and saint processions for Padre Pio and Maria Addolorata; maintaining famous Mulberry Street storefronts and the Arthur Avenue Market in Little Italy, as well as popular bakeries and restaurants in Greenwich Village and Queens; and supporting and worshipping at notable Italian churches, like Brooklyn's Our Lady of Mount Carmel Shrine Church and Alba House, a religious bookstore on Staten Island.

Blood of My Blood

It wasn't until I was a student at the Culinary Institute of America in the late 1970s that I first realized that growing up as a first generation Italian-American family in the Bronx and New Jersey wasn't as typical as I had thought. My parents and their parents were all born and raised in Italy. Throughout my youth and beyond, my father and mother referred to their five children, four boys and a girl, by the number in the order of which we were born. To this day, my mother still occasionally refers to me as "Number Two Son." But when it came to hanging around the kitchen, I was definitely the number one pest. I was the little punk kid always by my mother's side as she was cooking or baking. I would jockey for position wherever my mother moved, stand on a kitchen chair up against the stove, and otherwise constantly be in her way as I tried to get a better look at whatever was being done. Same when either of the grandmothers - Nona Lisa or Grandma Melfi - or other relatives were there. Maybe it was something in the water around Pisa, but I suspect it's a genetic condition. For my mother, her mother, cousins, aunts and countless generations before them in this food-fueled blood line, the world revolved around the kitchen and dining room table. Life was not good unless family, friends, or anyone close to the dinner table was fed to excess, ritually seduced with course after course of delicious, abundant and temptingly presented food. This attitude seemed to pervade all branches of the family, but my inspiration and mentor was Maria Gracia Melfi, aka Mama Melfi, aka The Food Pusher.

The Italian-americans

Between 1850 and 1870, New Orleans boasted the largest Italian-born population of any city in the United States. Its early Italian immigrants included musicians, business leaders, and diplomats. Sadly, in 1891, 11 members of the large Sicilian settlement in New Orleans were victims of the largest mass lynching in American history. However, by 1910, the city's French Quarter was a "Little Palermo" with Italian entrepreneur, laborers, and restaurateurs dominating the scene.

The Routledge History of Italian Americans

For most of New York's early history, Ellis Island had been an obscure little island that barely held itself above high tide. Today the small island stands alongside Plymouth Rock in our nation's founding mythology as the place where many of our ancestors first touched American soil. Ellis Island's heyday—from 1892 to 1954—coincided with one of the greatest mass movements of individuals the world has ever seen, with some twelve million immigrants inspected at its gates. In *American Passage*, Vincent J. Cannato masterfully illuminates the story of Ellis Island from the days when it hosted pirate hangings witnessed by thousands of New Yorkers in the nineteenth century to the turn of the twentieth century when massive migrations sparked fierce debate and hopeful new immigrants often encountered corruption, harsh conditions, and political scheming. *American Passage* captures a time and a place unparalleled in American immigration and history, and articulates the dramatic and bittersweet accounts of the immigrants, officials, interpreters, and social reformers who all play an important role in Ellis Island's chronicle. Cannato traces the politics, prejudices, and ideologies that surrounded the great immigration debate, to the shift from immigration to detention of aliens during World War II and the Cold War, all the way to the rebirth of the island as a national monument. Long after Ellis Island ceased to be the nation's preeminent immigrant inspection station, the debates that once swirled around it are still relevant to Americans a century later. In this sweeping, often heart-wrenching epic, Cannato reveals that the history of Ellis Island is ultimately the story of what it means to be an American.

New York City's Italian Neighborhoods

Since 1850, Chicago has felt the benefits of a vital Italian presence. These immigrants formed much of the unskilled workforce employed to build up this and many other major U.S. cities. From often meager and humble beginnings, Italians built and congregated in neighborhoods that came to define the Chicago landscape. Post-World War II development threatened this communal lifestyle, and subsequent generations of Italian Americans have been forced to face new challenges to retain their ethnic heritage and identity in a changing world. With the city's support, they are succeeding.

The Food Pusher's Cookbook

Using interviews and photographs, Anthony Riccio provides a vital supplement to our understanding of the Italian immigrant experience in the United States. In conversations around kitchen tables and in social clubs, members of New Haven's Italian American community evoke the rhythms of the streets and the pulse of life in the old ethnic neighborhoods. They describe the events that shaped the twentieth century—the Spanish Flu pandemic, the Great Depression, and World War II—along with the private histories of immigrant women who toiled under terrible working conditions in New Haven's shirt factories, who sacrificed dreams of education and careers for the economic well-being of their families. This is a compelling social, cultural, and political history of a vibrant immigrant community.

Long Island Italian Americans

Italians in New Orleans