

Italian Lessons

Joan L. Arndt

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Joan L. Arndt : Italian Lessons before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Italian Lessons:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I feel like I've lived in ItalyBy Stephanie A. GillettWhat started out as a slow and painfully detailed read ended up being enjoyable. I've long wanted to find out more about how to pick up and move to the motherland of my ancestors, but this book didn't tell me much about how to do it - this couple had the means to do it and live well, so there were no hints for an average Giuseppe like me. The story was fun, though. One thing did drive me crazy, though...the author flipped from past to present tense frequently in the first part of the novel. I wanted to scream, it was so distracting! But in the second half she left that little habit behind, so I kept reading, and I'm glad I did.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. The Reality of an Italian Dream told with Wit and WisdomBy S. MotleyEnjoyable for the armchair traveler, anyone who has been to Italy, or wants to go! I enjoyed this true account of a retired couple and their desire to buy and restore an historic property in Italy and rent it out for self catering holidays. I think all of us who love to travel have fantasized about that at some point. If you love House Hunters International, this book is for you! The author goes into detail with the ups and downs of expat life - the realities of another country's bureaucracy, language challenges and ultimately the rewards of "living the dream."0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book. Great writing, funny and so much more.By CarlWhat guts it took to do what Joan and Roger Arndt did. Upon retirement in the USA, they sold everything they owned, moved to Tuscany, totally resorted an estate, and settled in to a life in Italy. This would be so much easier for me than it was for them as my wife and I are both dual American and Italian citizens but I don't speak Italian, fancy self too old to bother to learn, so even if I had the fortitude to do the rest, I'd use the language as an excuse not to.This book is very well

written, offers great insight into the trials and tribulations of moving to a foreign country and is funny throughout. It isn't quite blow your coffee (or wine, depending upon the time of day) out your nose funny, but close. You'll like this couple. I do, anyway. In the States Roger and I might be a little too alpha for each other's liking but in a country where neither of us spoke the language we'd get along great. One thing Joan. I'd like to have heard more details about the outcome of the "denuncia". What happened? Who did it? Who won? You left me hanging Joan! But, you can do the following to make it up to me. Find me a place like yours in Sicily. Lipari or resuttana san lorenzo in Palermo. That's where my people are from. But I still want to hear more about the denuncia!

Standing above the dramatic arches underpinning the Basilica of Assisi and carried away by the beauty of the moment, Joan and Roger were determined to move to Italy. It took time, effort, grit, money, heavy doses of humor and even stronger servings of Italian "pazienza" but in the end, move they did. Launching a new career hosting vacationers, they persevered, renovating "Le Vigne," an old farmhouse. This is their story of good fortune, at times matched in equal measure with frustration. They made their dream come true. Here are their Italian lessons.