

Recipes and Dreams from an Italian Life

Tessa Kiros

Andrews McMeel

Hardcover \$29.99 (356pp)

978-1-4494-2521-0

Damn Italy for its hold on us. For the lingering memories of simple roadside meals in Campania and pitchers of house wine in Sicilia that shame the taste of anything we sip stateside. A resident of Tuscany, Tessa Kiros knows what so many of us feel for her adopted country.

Her latest book, *Recipes and Dreams From an Italian Life*, is a dreamy meditation on the Italian soul—hidden deep in the traditions, character, secrets, and generosity of Italy's matriarchal women. The soul of this book resides in Tessa's breathtaking introduction. "While the gentleman brought his craft, his work, his money, she brought her knowledge. Her know-how. Her art. Swimming through her veins and winding through her stitching. Spilling out into her broths. The way she had been taught. Of family. Of love."

As for the book's recipes, Tessa calls them simple and practical. We might add the words confident and comforting. Spaghetti with Lentil Ragu; Risotto with Pears and Pecorino; Baked Crumbed Chicken with Mozzarella, Anchovies, & Capers.

Masterfully designed and photographed, *Recipes and Dreams From an Italian Life* is an authentic Italian keepsake.

MATT SUTHERLAND (Summer 2013)

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