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June 17, 2015

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE AN ITALIAN-AMERICAN IN 2015 READING LIST:
PRESENTED TO THE ITALIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF LOS ANGELES

- 1) The Italian Americans: A History, W.W.Norton and Company, 2015.
Companion book to PBS special in 2015. Author is Maria Laurino.
- 2) Were You Always An Italian? Ancestors and Other Icons of Italian America. By Maria Laurino. Beyond the stereotype to describe the magnetic pull of Italy. W.W. Norton.
- 3) My Two Italies, by Joseph Luzzi. 2014, Farrar, Straus + Giroux., 2014.
Calabrian-American discusses pull of two disparate cultures.
- 4) Life is a Gift: The Zen of Bennett. By Tony Bennett, Harper Collins Publishers, 2012. Joyful essence of Italian-Americans.
- 5) La Bella Vita: Life and Love the Italian Way. Aminda Leigh and Pietro Pesca., Adams Media, 2010.
- 6) The Italian American Reader., Ed. Bill Tonelli. Harper Collins, 2003.
Wide selections of Italian-American writings.
- 7) The Italians: A Full Length Portrait Featuring Their Manners and Morals. By Luigi Barzini. Simon + Schuster, reprint in 1996 of 1969 book.
A real classic.

- 8) La Bella Figura: A Full Circle to the Italian Mind. Beppe Severgnini,
Broadway Books, 2006. Humorous view of the issue.
- 9) The Secret of Italy: People, Places, and Hidden History. By Corrado Augias. Rizzoli, 2012. Famous Italian journalist and writer's view
of Italianita.
- 10) Christ in Concrete, By Pietro DiDonato, Signet Classic, 1993. Reprint
of depression era novel of Italian laborers and their struggles in America.
- 11) The Madonna of 115th Street. By Robert A. Orsi, Yale University Press, 2002.
Stirring history of NYC's largest Italian immigrant colony in U.S.
- 12) An Offer We Can't Refuse: The Mafia and the Mind of America. By George
De Stefano, Faber + Faber, 2006.
- 13) Why We are All Romans: The Roman Contribution to the Western World.
By Carl J. Richard, Rowan + Littlefield Publishers, 2010.

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ITALIAN-AMERICAN READING LIST – Volume 13

- 1) Were You Always An Italian? Ancestry and Others Icons of Italian-Americans; by Maria Laurino, 2000, W.W. Northern and Co. (same author for 2015, Television and book edition: the Italian-Americans History).
- 2) The Italian-American Table: Food, Family, and Community in New York City, 2013, University of Illinois Press., Simone Cinotto.
- 3) The Italians, Luigi Barzini, Tomahawk Books//Simon & Schuster, 1964/1996, reprint of classic Italian, Italian-American literature.
- 4) Hadrian and the Triumph of Rome, by Anthony Everitt., Random House 2013.
- 5) The Greatest Empire: The life of Seneca by Emily Wilson, Oxford University Press, 2014. Classic biography of Roman philosopher and advisor to Nero.
- 6) Loveless Love, by Luigi Pirandello, 2015, Harper Press Ltd., Translation of Sicilian Master's view of negative aspects of love.
- 7) Lost Battles: Leonardo, Michelangelo and the Artistic Dual that Defined the Renaissance, by Jonathan Jones, Simon & Schuster, 2010. Fascinating dual biography of renaissance greats.
- 8) The Borgias by Christopher Hubbert, Levenstoll and Robinson 2011, Murder, tragedy, and deceit in the Renaissance.
- 9) Ponzi's Scheme: The True Story of a Financial Legend by Mitchell Zukoff; Random House, 2006. Premier con-artist and swindler who defrauded Italian-Americans and was ultimately deported to Italy.
- 10) The Ugly Renaissance: Sex, Greed Violence and Depravity in the Age of Beauty by Alexander Lee, Doubleday, 2013. Compelling exploration of the dark side of the renaissance.
- 11) Sicilian Tragedee: by Ottavio Cappellani, 2008, Farrar, Straus & Giroux. Translation of black comedy novel of love and crime in contemporary Sicily.
- 12) American Original: The Life and Constitution of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, by Joan Biskupic, Farrar, Straus & Giroux; Biography of Italian-American U.S. Supreme Court Justice.