

A
BRIDGE
BETWEEN

NORTHERN ITALY
COME HELL OR HIGH WATER



A MEMOIR

VELIA POLA

Velia Pola

A Bridge Between: Northern Italy Come Hell or High Water



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A simple family vacation intended to satisfy a vintage man’s desire to revisit his ancestral village quickly becomes a trip filled up with adversity, perseverance and revelation. They battle to keep their heads above drinking water in Venice, battle Comacchian eel on the Adriatic coastline and endure a frantic game of hide and seek in Ravenna. For a family crossing northern Italy, the beauty of the region provides a colorful backdrop while their past weaves alongside the present and they comprehend a new reality. They nourish their bodies and souls in Emilia-Romagna, best a belligerent agent in Bellagio and think about love and loss in winter's shadow on Lake Como. As a generation of seniors confronts the long-term care of their parents, *A BRIDGE BETWEEN* transcends the function of travelogue to become socially relevant commentary on devotion, acceptance, and the evolution of familial relationships. From Venice to Savona, vivid landscapes and historic venues merge a family love tale about maturing with grace and determination.



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Enjoyable. There's very much to explore in this tale, about as much as was explored through the family's trip to Italy, but omitting spoilers, for starters there's the slower repetitive paced composing that truly makes the story work. It is upmarket amazing by its unpretentious witty airiness, leaving little choice but to take pleasure from Velia's parents endearing romantic relationship. I as well liked the way the story weaved backwards and forwards, transitioning from Velia childhood years to particulars in her adult existence, and her parents' aging... I thoroughly enjoyed it. Thanks a lot for writing a thoroughly enjoyable story! Gosh, I melted reading that part. What was exclusive was Carlo and Peggy's insatiable appetite to get out and explore the world. And the description of Italy, and Anna to go along with it, gets my standing up ovation! She produced me laugh immediately and made me cry just a couple chapters later. Family members were larger back then. On both sides of my children 13 children were born... ironically 9 nine who survived on both sides, and even more ironic, one of the 8th kid in collection reminded me a lot of Velia. The chime of San Marco's bells was another tender place. Sure would love to know if your parents ever surely got to the Taj Mahal I empathized with Carlo when he cried upon achieving Finale Emilia. Severed umbilical cords and relocating apart, the innate magnetic pull connecting with our origins can be powerful. One of my favorite parts (gratefully things turned out okay) was Velia catching her mom in the 'scissors' maneuver on the deck. Fascinating book! Last minute Christmas present Do you need to buy a last minute Christmas gift? I finished this publication wishing that I possibly could have known Mr. & Mrs. That is a reserve of great humanity and love of family members. I admit for some horror at a number of the events upon this trip - the airport terminal in Paris, for instance, and the stairs in Italy - however the courage and like of adventure that carried everyone up and onward were inspirational. Two problems. A must go through for anyone with aging parents. Second, my Kindle version has a variety of fonts and font sizes, with changes sometimes made in the same sentence, and just one would have been nice. This last, I suppose, is Amazon's problem rather than that of the writer. This was really worth reading and I look forward to more from Ms. A Bridge Between is the story of a vacation two of my sisters took with my aging parents. Charming and Light This memoir was an enjoyable read that I thought was a lovely tour of Northern Italy. I examine it after my grandfather passed on, never having had the opportunity that Velia Pola did to take her dad back to his home in Finale Emilia. Filled with touching anecdotes and fond remembrances, it made me wonder what may have been with my very own family. The book is written with like and you fall in love with the characters along the way as if these were part of your extended family. Heart-touching and thought-provoking memoir of a landmark family members trip As the writer and her sister accompany their elderly and fragile parents on a pilgrimage to the father's home village in Northern Italy, the reader is drawn to their trip and rooting because of its successful completion. I enjoyed this book very much and my just criticism is as one of the other reviewers mentioned, occasionally the skipping backwards and forwards can get a little bit awkward. Loved it! Perfect summer read!.. desired a sequel! Fantastic story, masterfully crafted. Velia Pola's memoir of the trip to her aging father's Italian house (with her mother and sister) left me personally curious about more. How do her parents' manage on the cruise house? This book can be descriptive, engaging and produced me feel like I must say I knew her parents. I gave this book as a gift to two close friends plus they love the tale. Velia's writing is incredibly conversational, comprehensive and a joy to read. Pola's writing style is quite fluent and engaging, and she's produced an excellent travelogue covered in sentiment and family members reminiscences. But its a minor criticism - the pleasure and appreciate in this book make it an excellent read irrespective of its flaw. This is a classic love story. If so, and the present of a publication is appropriate, purchase A Bridge Between: Northern Italy Come Hell or High Water by Velia Pola, my sister. As one dealing w/ an maturing mom - torn between packing her up and acquiring her back again to her very own childhood home (in the States - no intercontinental adventure) and just enjoying memories of that which was -- I was motivated to try another trip!. Pola. The love she and her sister talk about for their family can be an inspiration for all. It really is written from the viewpoint of my sister's placement of being the 8th child in a

family of nine siblings, the infant female, as the youngest of the family is definitely male. You will need to meet Peg & Carlo once you read this publication and you CAN because they're now having a "property voyage" in assisted living - 95 and 92 and simply as loving as referred to in *A Bridge Between*. On the way there are a series of travails to deal with which the sisters overcome with determination and filial love, but the writer also writes of the natural splendor of the north Italian scenery and the picturesque towns and towns from Venice to Lake Como and her father's birthplace Finale Emilia. To begin with it was a vacation . Sentimental Italian journey Carlo Pola at the age of 91 unexpectedly declared that he previously a yearning to return to the town in northern Italy where he was created and hadn't seen since the age of six.. Ms. Many thanks for sharing your tale around! An enjoyable read. I would expect nothing much less from a loving Italian-American family telling stories over the communal table. The story of this loving and outspoken family members provides much meals for thought about how adult kids can most successfully maintain relationship with their aging parents, and also encouragement about the emotional rewards of open-hearted perseverance when confronted with daunting obstacles. Delightfully Engaging! This heartwarming story of two sisters traveling with their parents to satisfy their 91 year old father's wish to go back to the land of his heritage engaged me through its entirety. Velia Pola painted vibrant visuals with her detailed descriptions of the landscapes, the food and the people of Northern Italy. Sharing her concerns and hurdles of vacationing with aged parents revealed the function reversal we knowledge as our parents age group. Delighted to possess shared this trip. I thought it had been an incredible insight in to the love story of her mother and father and their family. The author is an excellent writer. Why hasn't this publication sold millions? At the same time the author tells great tales of appointments to towns, metropolitan areas, and farms of Italy. I was wrong This book was suggested by a pal." I've bought 4 even more copies for relatives and buddies.very long time before reading it. I thought A story of acquiring elderly parents back again to the father's birth town could be tiresome reading. I was incorrect. Pola and had a chance to travel with them. I thought A story of taking elderly parents back again to the father's birth city could possibly be tedious reading. The down sides of negotiating the needs of aging parents is often told with emotions of frustration..and always with humour. After reading "A Bridge Between.. Finale Emilia and close by towns are mentioned for their gastronomic delights, and these are defined by Pola with mouth-watering gusto and appreciation.... One has told me she intends to share the book with her niece and reread the publication herself because (and I estimate) "it really is soooooo good". I purchased it but let it sit around a. Interestingly, my daughter can be reading this in her book club I actually thoroughly enjoyed it. In *A Bridge Between*, Velia Pola writes of how she and her sister Jan provided the assistance her father and 88 year outdated mother had a need to undertake such a trip and help Carlo recognize his wish... I simply finished reading the publication in one afternoon. not to mention this scenic visit to Italy as well. To begin with it was a vacation down memory space lane as I had last been to Italy in 2006 and acquired also visited Venice, the hawaiian islands and Ravenna. Brilliantly Written This book should be a bestseller. The book could have been edited better since the skipping back and forth was sometimes awkward and/or confusing. Velia Pola has strike the nail on the top when it comes to caring for aging parents. Velia's large family members certainly was relatable. Woven into the tale is the love of my parents, their love of travel, my sisters love of travel, and the countless issues of caring for maturing parents that are shedding their independence and ability to travel by themselves. She captured Italy at its greatest and also its most severe. It made me desire to go back there again and discover the family members that shared the cheese and to satisfy Anna. As a Senior Citizen that has currently passed the 3/4 century tag I can only wish and pray that I could be like Peggy in the next few years and that my children will deal with me with as very much respect as the Pola kids deal with their parents. Velia, I hope that trip helped you in connecting to the Italian heritage that you missed while developing up. It is a reminder to the a lot of us that have step-children and grandchildren to add each and every one of them in our life. Good for them.



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