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B. Amore

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B. Amore : Italian American Odyssey: Life line--filo della vita: Through Ellis Island and Beyond before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Italian American Odyssey: Life line--filo della vita: Through Ellis Island and Beyond:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An Italian American Odyssey is a treasure to be savored By Midwest Book Review Written by acclaimed artist and educator B. Amore, An Italian American Odyssey: Through Ellis Island and Beyond is not just a single person's memoir - it is the collective memoir of seven generations of an Italian-American family, chronicling the story of their journey to America. Full color photographs and collages are displayed on almost every other page of the English-language first half of the compendium; the second half presents an Italian translation of the English text, though without the photographs. The text is not a single continuous text, but rather an eclectic selection of vignettes, first-person testimonies, letters, insights, diaries, and much more. An Italian American Odyssey is a treasure to be savored a few pages at a time or all at once, and a wondrous window into the difficult yet often rewarding task of adapting to new challenges.

A moving blend of words and images, An Italian American Odyssey tells the story of the journey to America across seven generations of one Italian-American family. Drawing on a remarkable collection of raw material fragments of family letters, stories, diaries, and other writings, as well as photographs, collages, and assemblages of such humble objects as a pasta cutter, mismatched kitchen chairs, and faded biancheria, or dowry linens B. Amore fashions a new encounter with American history, as a story retold and reimagined. Lavishly illustrated in full color, this visual memoir is based on Amore's multimedia exhibition Lifeline: filo della vita, which traveled with great acclaim from the Ellis Island Museum to Boston, Rome, and Naples. Woven throughout are numerous interviews in both English and Italian,

as are many other documents and historic photographs from the Ellis Island archives. Also included are original essays by Pellegrino D'Acerno, Fred Gardaph, Jennifer Guglielmo, Edvige Giunta, Flavia Rando, Joseph Sciorra, and Robert Viscusi who take *Amores artas* as a starting point for illuminating explorations of the immigrant experience from the aesthetics of cultural memory and the persistence of ethnic identity to issues of gender, race, and generational change in Italian-American history and life. The book includes an Italian translation of the full text. The book's colorful, highly charged assemblages link two worlds, many generations, and one family's journey to pasts shared by so many millions of others. In its powerful words and images, the children and grandchildren of America's immigrants can enter B. Amores world and in the process, rediscover their own.