

Chapter 1 : That Summer in Sicily - LION: Libraries Online - OverDrive

*NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER "At villa Donnafugata, long ago is never very far away," writes bestselling author Marlena de Blasi of the magnificent if somewhat ruined castle in the mountains of Sicily that she finds, accidentally, one summer while traveling with her husband, Fernando.*

Brilliantly crafted, the story lingers, thoroughly haunts beyond the final page. Nothing else at all. I never had the least will to speak Italian. After a while I became one of the boys. Can you tell us the origin of your nickname, Chou-Chou? Were you more enchanted than he was? More open to being enchanted, I guess. Sicily is not really Italy. The truth is I like that sensation. The proof that history repeats and repeats and that character is inexorable. We are all endlessly ourselves. When we want more than our portion. How were you able to so vividly retell your amazing experiences? What was the process like? Can you describe your methods of recall? Everything gets saved in some far more spiritual place. Certainly not half the characters. Dining together is an intimate event. I smiled left and right but never once looked at him. In the narrative I explain the truth of the great Sicilian triumvirate: Where were you, and how did you feel as you read it? Did I suspect what she revealed? Perhaps I even knew. Did you as you read the book?

**Chapter 2 : That Summer in Sicily, by Marlena de Blasi – Slow Travels**

*Marlena de Blasi's book, That Summer in Sicily, looked like just the thing to satisfy my obsession - even if only in part. And she calls to life a wonderful, magical portrait of rural Sicily invoking all the senses.*

For me there should be no debate about whether a book gets 4 or 5 stars; if you cannot decide then it is only 4 stars. You have to be sure about a 5 star book. I am sure that this one gets my 5 stars. Tosca, her life and what she made of it is totally fascinating. Extraordinary strong, wonderful people - all of them. I have quoted enough to give you a taste. You learn about the Sicilian people. Culinary descriptions are so beautiful that even I read them with enjoyment. And you learn about the Mafia - their values, a bit of how they think and how the Sicilian people live along-side them. The ending is a BIG surprise. However if you read the spoiler by mistake, you will be so confused that you need to read every word of the story so you understand how such could happen. I grew to love Tosca and Leo and Mafalda. I wish I could go live there. Nothing stays the same. By the time I would be ready to live there, it probably would not be the same Would I have the courage? It is doubtful they would accept me, but I am never going to forget this place! It is a story about one Sicilian woman and the people with whom she made her life. What she herself made out of her life is what is interesting. And I like how it is written. Here is another quote: About the fragments within the allegories that are empty. The restoring artist would have had to paint his own figures and hence, dishonor the intrinsic value of the work. It is quite the same with a life. There are blank spaces that I cannot fill. The thoughts, in all their simplicity, are beautifully expressed. So what do you think of the following quote? Do you find it intriguing? But also twice as predictable. Almost everything that happens, happens over and over again. Together, yet not at all together. Certainly over something as evanescent as love. Stones and earth and buildings," she raises a thin, white sapphire-braceleted wrist to take in the palace behind her, "these are lasting things. These are what count. The book is very plot driven. It is about all the people that we meet in the first chapter. So I really cannot say much. I thought I would quote a bit so you understand HOW the author writes. All of which led me to the truth that there were two types of men in the world. Those like Brasini and those who were not like Brasini. Those who would take your face in their hands and kiss you like in the films and those who would never in ten million years take your face in their hands and kiss you like in the films. Now as I said, I was about eight that morning in the market when this epiphany struck me. I might have been seven. And it also helped me to recognize you. I knew that by the time I was ten, maybe eleven. And my curiosity about the various people I first encountered is slowly being answered. You learn about who these people are and why they are who they are. This is a marvelous love story and a Sicilian tale that is true. As the title indicates, it IS a love story. And much, much more. The people there in this castle in , the central characters, have been with her since she was nine. The love depicted is beautiful. Mind you, she is still only nine. Wait till you meet Leo! And Cosimo and Agata and Wait till you too fall in love with this place. I really wish I could transport myself there. To protect the identity of the real people the author has changed names and exact places. When you read the book you will see why. Hmmm, would I fit there? I am not going to copy them again. What I wanted to say by these paragraphs was that each sentence arouses your curiosity. Who are these people in this crumbling castle? Who is this Tosca ,and what is her relationship with that cleric? And what has happened to her husband, and how has she been able to set up this wonderful place for those who have been left stranded? All are friends since they have worked side-by-side for many years in the nearby village. What a wonderful place for retirement! It is not a "home", but an active willage in its own right. How have I missed this book and this author?! She has recently come out with another book entitled Amandine: Think to stumble upon this monastery today, housing a peaceful, tightly knit society of widowed Italian women.

### Chapter 3 : That Summer in Sicily (Audiobook) by Marlena de Blasi | [theinnatdunvilla.com](http://theinnatdunvilla.com)

*About That Summer in Sicily. NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER "At villa Donnafugata, long ago is never very far away," writes bestselling author Marlena de Blasi of the magnificent if somewhat ruined castle in the mountains of Sicily that she finds, accidentally, one summer while traveling with her husband, Fernando.*

The Lady in the Palazzo: Her latest book, *That Summer in Sicily: A Love Story*, is called a memoir, but is more of a novel about a family in a remote village in the mountains of Sicily. Steve and I, and our friend Joan, went to see her. While I love reading her books, I always wondered what I would think of her if I ever got to meet her. Photos show her with dramatic makeup and her descriptions of herself in her books talk about her extravagant way of dressing and all those velvet throw pillows in her house!! Well, I loved her! She was magnificent, captivating, enchanting. Yes, there was a lot of makeup, but she looked fabulous. Red lipstick, dark eye liner, dramatic black hair, beautiful russet jacket, big jewelry. She speaks with the most wonderful quiet, almost whispering, voice. She clearly has great passion for her life, her husband and her writing. The crowd was disappointingly small – maybe a dozen people, mostly women – it had not been advertised well. I only knew about it because Joan saw it listed in the weekend paper. De Blasi started by talking to the group, asking if there were questions. He stood and said hello to the group. Then she talked about how she came to write the book. She was given an assignment by a prestigious magazine to write about the people in Sicily, not on the popular coastal areas, but inland, in the mountains. She knew many other writers had turned down the assignment, knowing how difficult it would be to get these Sicilians to give them the information they needed. She took the job, but failed to get the information she needed for the article. I copied that description from the book jacket because I have not read the book yet. She talked about going into the village and seeing a group of women washing their clothes by hand in the fountain. She and Fernando were looking for a hotel they had been told was there, but they could not find it. She asked the women. The women looked at them but would not answer. As they were leaving she looked back and one of them nodded towards a nearby hilltop. De Blasi said she would love to have joined the women to wash her shirt in the fountain – she immediately felt a kinship with the group. She talked about the simple way people live in these remote villages, so different from how we live now in modern areas. Marlena and Fernando spent a month in the remote village, learning the story of these women, and then she wrote the book based on the story. She has not revealed the location of the village and you will not be able to identify the people from her novel. They do not want to be found. She said that in the other books, even though they are memoirs, there are characters that she develops and writes for, so it is not so different with this one. Joan asked her what she is working on now. I spoke with her for a few minutes while getting my book signed. They still live in Orvieto. She asked me if I remembered the man who ran the alimentari grocery shop in Celle sul Rigo. I did – he is strikingly handsome. And she told us they have dinner in Cetona regularly at the same restaurant that we went to several times. I searched for some online interviews with de Blasi and could not find any. If you find any, please post in the comments. I did find this essay she wrote on her publishers site: [I am looking forward to reading this new book!](#) We moved to the UK in [Read about our move](#). If you would like to talk about travel, please join us on the [Slow Europe Travel Forums](#). View all posts by [Pauline Kenny](#) Posted on.

### Chapter 4 : That Summer in Sicily | Bookshare

*From de Blasi (The Lady in the Palazzo, , etc.), a fragrant tale of life and love in the mountains of theinnatdunvilla.comy after the Venetian interlude she luxuriously captured in A Thousand Days in Venice (), the author accepted an assignment to write a magazine article on the interior regions of Sicily.*

### Chapter 5 : 5 beaches to visit in Sicily this summer | Sicilian blog

*That Summer in Sicily: A Love Story by Marlena De Blasi My rating: 4 of 5 stars When I wrote about Ragusa's Castle of*

## DOWNLOAD PDF THAT SUMMER IN SICILY

*Donnafugata for Italy Magazine, several readers contacted me to say that it was the setting of this book.*

### Chapter 6 : That Summer in Sicily - Brevard County Library - OverDrive

*"Sicily," said Goethe, "is the key to everything." It is the largest island in the Mediterranean, the stepping-stone between Europe and Africa, the link between the Latin West and the Greek East. Sicily's strategic location has tempted Roman emperors, French princes, and Spanish kings.*

### Chapter 7 : THAT SUMMER IN SICILY by Marlena de Blasi | Kirkus Reviews

*Sicily is a land of contrasts: grandeur and poverty, beauty and sufferance, illusion and candor. In a luminous and tantalizing voice, "That Summer in Sicily" re-creates Tosca's life, from her impoverished childhood to her fairy-tale adoption and initiation into the glittering life of the prince's palace, to the dawning and recognition of mutual.*

### Chapter 8 : That Summer in Sicily by Marlena de Blasi

*That Summer in Sicily is the story-within-a-story of a writer who, in an 18th-century Anjou castle, meets a woman with a tale to tell. Tosca is a gorgeous, green-eyed, former peasant girl who.*

### Chapter 9 : That Summer in Sicily by Marlena de Blasi | theinnatdunvilla.com

*In her fourth Italian memoir (after *The Lady in the Palazzo*), American writer de Blasi utilizes her personal narrative as merely bookends for a larger story. In.*