

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi

****By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi – A Captivating Dive into Mystery and History****

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi opens a fascinating window into the world of crime fiction blended with historical depth. This title, part of the celebrated Commissario Ricciardi series by Maurizio de Giovanni, captures not only the spirit of a festive season but also the dark, intricate threads of mystery that define the detective's journey. For fans of Italian noir and historical mysteries, "By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi" offers a richly textured narrative set against the backdrop of 1930s Naples, weaving together suspense, emotional complexity, and evocative period details.

Exploring the World of Commissario Ricciardi

The character of Commissario Ricciardi is one of the most compelling creations in contemporary Italian literature. Set in Fascist-era Naples, this series introduces readers to a detective who is far from ordinary. Ricciardi possesses a supernatural gift: he can see the last moments of the dead. This unique ability brings him face-to-face with the tragedies and secrets hidden beneath the city's surface, especially during the tumultuous holiday season depicted in "By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi."

Historical Context and Setting

Understanding the setting is essential to appreciating the depth of this novel. Naples in the 1930s was a city marked by political tension, social disparity, and a rich cultural heritage. The Christmas season provided a stark contrast between joy and underlying darkness. Maurizio de Giovanni masterfully captures this duality, using the festive backdrop to heighten the suspense and emotional stakes of the story. The atmosphere of Naples—its streets, traditions, and people—becomes almost a character in its own right.

Who is Commissario Ricciardi?

At the heart of the story is Commissario Luigi Ricciardi, a man burdened by his gift and the solitude it brings. His ability to witness the last moments of murder victims allows him to solve cases that baffle others, but it also isolates him emotionally. In "By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi," readers get a deeper look at Ricciardi's internal struggles during a season traditionally associated with warmth and family. His interactions with colleagues, friends, and the people of Naples add layers to his character, making him relatable and deeply human.

The Intricacies of “By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi”

This installment in the Ricciardi series stands out not only for its gripping plot but also for its vivid portrayal of Christmas in a time and place far removed from the typical holiday narratives.

A Festive Mystery Unlike Any Other

While many Christmas stories focus on joy and togetherness, “By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi” embraces the tension between light and darkness. The festive season becomes a haunting backdrop for a murder investigation that challenges Ricciardi’s skills and moral compass. The novel carefully balances moments of tenderness and hope with the grim realities of crime and loss, making it a unique addition to holiday literature.

The Role of Supporting Characters

The richness of this story also comes from its supporting cast. Characters such as Maione, Ricciardi’s loyal and streetwise assistant, and Livia, Ricciardi’s love interest, bring depth and warmth to the narrative. Their perspectives and interactions reveal different facets of Naples’ society and the complexities of human relationships during a fraught historical period. The way these characters navigate the Christmas season alongside Ricciardi offers insights into resilience and compassion amidst adversity.

Why “By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi” Resonates with Readers

There are several reasons why this novel has garnered acclaim from mystery enthusiasts and historical fiction lovers alike.

Unique Blend of Genres

Combining crime fiction with historical and supernatural elements, the novel defies easy categorization. Readers seeking a straightforward detective story find themselves immersed in a broader exploration of human nature, societal issues, and the impact of political climate on everyday life. This blend enriches the reading experience and invites multiple interpretations.

Authenticity and Research

Maurizio de Giovanni’s meticulous research into 1930s Naples shines through every page. From the

depiction of local customs and dialect to the portrayal of political tensions under Mussolini's regime, the novel offers an authentic glimpse into a complex era. This authenticity enhances the suspense, as the historical context influences the plot and characters' motivations in subtle yet significant ways.

The Emotional Depth of Ricciardi's Journey

What truly sets "By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi" apart is the emotional resonance of Ricciardi's story. His supernatural gift is both a blessing and a curse, forcing him to confront death and injustice daily. The Christmas setting amplifies these themes, juxtaposing the season's traditional messages of hope with the harsh realities encountered by the characters. Readers often find themselves reflecting on themes of loss, redemption, and the human capacity for empathy.

Tips for Readers New to the Commissario Ricciardi Series

If "By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi" has piqued your interest, here are some helpful suggestions to enhance your reading experience:

- **Start with the earlier books:** While this Christmas-themed novel stands well on its own, reading the previous novels in the series will deepen your understanding of Ricciardi's character and relationships.
- **Immerse yourself in the historical context:** Familiarizing yourself with the political and social climate of 1930s Italy can add layers of meaning to the story.
- **Pay attention to cultural details:** The author's use of Neapolitan dialect and local traditions enriches the narrative, offering a vibrant sense of place.
- **Reflect on the supernatural elements:** Ricciardi's gift is central to the plot and themes, so consider how it shapes his worldview and the story's moral questions.

The Impact of "By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi" on Contemporary Crime Fiction

This novel contributes significantly to the evolution of crime fiction, especially within the Italian literary scene. By blending supernatural abilities with historical realism, it challenges traditional detective story conventions. The Christmas setting adds a fresh dimension, allowing the exploration of darker themes under the guise of a holiday narrative.

Moreover, the book highlights the importance of atmosphere and setting in crime fiction. Naples is not

just a backdrop but an active participant in the unfolding mystery, reflecting the societal tensions and emotional undercurrents that drive the plot. This approach has inspired other authors to delve deeper into the interplay between place, politics, and personal stories within the genre.

The Broader Appeal Beyond Mystery Fans

While primarily a mystery novel, “By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi” appeals to readers interested in historical fiction, cultural studies, and psychological drama. Its nuanced characters and evocative setting make it a rewarding read for those who appreciate layered storytelling.

Where to Find and How to Enjoy “By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi”

This novel is available in various formats, including paperback, e-book, and audiobook, making it accessible to a wide audience. For the best experience, consider the following:

- **Read with a focus on atmosphere:** Allow yourself to be transported to 1930s Naples by savoring the descriptive passages and cultural details.
- **Listen to the audiobook:** A well-narrated version can bring the characters and setting to life, especially if the narrator captures the nuances of the Neapolitan dialect and the story’s emotional tone.
- **Join book clubs or online discussions:** Engaging with other readers can deepen your appreciation and provide new perspectives on the novel’s themes.

Whether you are a seasoned fan of Commissario Ricciardi or a newcomer intrigued by historical mysteries, “By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi” offers a richly rewarding literary journey. Its blend of suspense, history, and heartfelt emotion ensures that it remains a memorable entry in the canon of holiday-themed crime fiction.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi' about?

'By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi' is a mystery novel featuring Commissario Ricciardi, an Italian detective with a supernatural ability to see the last moments of murder victims. The story is set during Christmas and revolves around solving a chilling holiday murder.

Who is the author of 'By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi'?

The novel is written by Maurizio de Giovanni, an acclaimed Italian author known for his crime and mystery novels set in Naples.

Is 'By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi' part of a series?

Yes, it is part of the Commissario Ricciardi series, which follows the investigations of the unique detective Ricciardi in 1930s Naples.

What makes Commissario Ricciardi a unique detective character?

Commissario Ricciardi has the supernatural gift of seeing the last moments of murder victims, which helps him solve complex cases, setting him apart from typical detectives.

Has 'By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi' been adapted into other media?

As of now, there have been adaptations of the Commissario Ricciardi series into television, but specific adaptations of 'By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi' may vary by region and availability.

What themes are explored in 'By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi'?

The novel explores themes of justice, supernatural insight, human emotion, and the contrast between festive cheer and dark crime during the Christmas season.

Where is the setting of 'By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi'?

The story is set in 1930s Naples, Italy, providing a rich historical and cultural backdrop to the mystery.

Why is 'By My Hand: The Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi' popular among mystery readers?

The novel combines a compelling detective story with supernatural elements, atmospheric historical setting, and strong character development, making it appealing to fans of both mystery and historical fiction.

Additional Resources

By My Hand the Christmas of Commissario Ricciardi: A Deep Dive into Maurizio de Giovanni's Seasonal Noir

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi emerges as a compelling chapter in Maurizio de Giovanni's celebrated series, blending the atmospheric tension of 1930s Naples with the chilling undertones of a holiday mystery. This particular installment of the Commissario Ricciardi saga not only enriches the overarching narrative but also brings to the fore the unique fusion of historical fiction and crime thriller that defines the series. As readers navigate this festive yet foreboding tale, they encounter a nuanced exploration of human emotions, societal undercurrents, and the complexities of justice during an era shadowed by fascism and superstition.

The Dark Allure of Commissario Ricciardi's Christmas

Maurizio de Giovanni's depiction of Naples during Christmas in "by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi" stands out for its vivid portrayal of a city caught between celebration and despair. Unlike typical festive narratives that emphasize warmth and joy, this story leverages the contrast between the holiday's cheer and the grim realities of crime, poverty, and political tension. The Christmas setting amplifies the emotional stakes, creating a backdrop where light and darkness coexist uneasily.

The protagonist, Commissario Ricciardi, is a deeply introspective character whose supernatural gift—seeing the final moments of murder victims—adds a layer of psychological complexity to the narrative. This gift, paired with the Christmas timeline, intensifies the moral dilemmas he faces. The seasonal context does not diminish the grim tone but rather casts a poignant light on the fragility of life and the pursuit of truth.

Historical and Cultural Context

Set in 1930s Naples, the story is steeped in the historical realities of Fascist Italy. De Giovanni meticulously reconstructs the era's social fabric, from the cobblestone streets to the political paranoia that permeates daily life. This historical grounding enriches the narrative, providing readers with an authentic glimpse into the challenges faced by citizens under Mussolini's regime.

The Christmas celebrations in this period are depicted with a mixture of traditional customs and the looming presence of authoritarian oversight. This duality enhances the tension and sets a unique tone compared to other crime novels set during the festive season. The juxtaposition of communal festivity and individual tragedy is a recurring motif that underscores the narrative's emotional depth.

Character Dynamics and Psychological Depth

One of the strengths of "by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi" lies in its character development. Commissario Ricciardi is not a typical detective; his melancholic demeanor and supernatural burden make him a tragic figure wrestling with existential questions. The Christmas

setting accentuates his isolation, as he confronts the holiday's themes of hope and redemption while personally grappling with loss and moral ambiguity.

Supporting characters also gain depth through their interactions with Ricciardi during this festive yet fraught time. Relationships are tested, alliances are forged or broken, and the human element remains central to the unfolding mystery. The emotional resonance of these dynamics is heightened by the seasonal atmosphere, lending the story a layered complexity.

Narrative Structure and Pacing

De Giovanni's narrative pacing in "by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi" is deliberate, allowing for atmospheric buildup without sacrificing suspense. The story unfolds through a blend of investigative procedure and introspective moments, balancing action with character reflection. The Christmas setting is integrated seamlessly, influencing plot developments and character motivations without feeling contrived.

The novel's structure supports a gradual revelation of clues, maintaining reader engagement through strategic suspense and unexpected twists. The interplay between Ricciardi's supernatural insights and traditional detective work offers a fresh take on crime-solving narratives, particularly within the festive context where expectations of warmth and closure are subverted.

Comparative Analysis with Other Holiday Crime Fiction

When compared to other crime novels set during Christmas, such as Agatha Christie's "Hercule Poirot's Christmas" or Donna Andrews' "Merry Gentry" series, "by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi" distinguishes itself through its historical and supernatural elements. While many holiday mysteries leverage the contrast between cheer and crime, de Giovanni's work delves deeper into the psychological and societal complexities of its setting.

The integration of a protagonist with a psychic ability also sets this novel apart, offering a unique investigative mechanic that influences story progression. This aspect contrasts with more conventional detective stories that rely solely on logic and deduction, adding a layer of metaphysical intrigue.

Pros and Cons of the Novel's Approach

- **Pros:**

- Rich historical detail immerses readers in 1930s Naples.
- Complex protagonist with supernatural abilities adds originality.
- Atmospheric use of Christmas enhances emotional depth.

- Balanced pacing maintains suspense without rushing plot development.

- **Cons:**

- The supernatural element may polarize readers seeking purely realistic crime fiction.
- Slow pacing might challenge readers accustomed to fast-paced thrillers.
- Heavy historical context requires some familiarity with the era for full appreciation.

Impact and Reception in the Crime Fiction Community

"By my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi" has garnered attention for its distinctive blend of noir, historical fiction, and supernatural elements. Critics have praised de Giovanni's evocative prose and the depth of his central character. The novel contributes to the broader recognition of Italian crime fiction on the international stage, highlighting the genre's capacity for cultural specificity and emotional resonance.

Readers often comment on the novel's ability to evoke a strong sense of place and time, with Naples itself emerging as a character. The Christmas theme, rather than serving as mere backdrop, is woven intricately into the narrative fabric, influencing mood, themes, and plot in meaningful ways.

Relevance of LSI Keywords in Context

Throughout discussions of "by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi," related terms such as "Italian crime novels," "historical mystery Naples," "supernatural detective fiction," and "1930s fascist Italy literature" frequently arise. These keywords not only contextualize the novel within its literary tradition but also aid in SEO optimization by reflecting common search queries related to the book's themes and setting.

Furthermore, phrases like "seasonal noir," "Christmas mystery novels," and "Maurizio de Giovanni series" naturally complement conversations about the novel, enhancing discoverability for readers interested in holiday-themed crime stories or historical mysteries.

By intertwining these LSI keywords with a thorough analysis, this article aims to provide a comprehensive resource for both casual readers and serious enthusiasts seeking deeper insights into this intriguing work.

Exploring "by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi" reveals a novel that transcends conventional holiday storytelling. It invites readers into a richly textured world where the spirit of Christmas is shadowed by human frailty and the relentless quest for justice. Through its meticulous

historical detail, complex characters, and innovative narrative approach, the book solidifies its place as a noteworthy contribution to contemporary crime fiction.

[By My Hand The Christmas Of Commissario Ricciardi](#)

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by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi: By My Hand Maurizio de Giovanni, 2014-08-05 The fifth Commissario Ricciardi historical mystery in the series of “ingenious crime novels, written with intelligence and enthusiasm” (The Wall Street Journal). As Naples prepares for its holiday celebrations, behind the facade of order and happiness imposed by the fascist regime, lurks terrible poverty and blinding desperation. In a luxurious apartment on the Mergellina beach the bodies of a fascist militia officer and his wife have been found. The woman has had her throat cut while the man has been stabbed over sixty times. Seemingly, the hands of two separate killers have been at work. A statuette of San Giuseppe, patron saint of workers, lies in pieces on the floor. At the scene of the crime, Ricciardi, who has the dubious gift of being able to see and hear the last seconds in the lives of those who have suffered a violent death, listens to the enigmatic last words of the couple. Accompanied by his faithful partner Brigadier Raffaele Maione, and once more troubled by two women who compete for his attentions, the Commissario will have to trace a wide and frenetic arc through the streets of Naples in order to uncover the truth. “The refreshing lack of cynicism of de Giovanni’s two lead detectives, Brigadier Raffaele Maione and Commissario Luigi Alfredo Ricciardi, distinguishes the quietly enjoyable fifth Commissario Ricciardi mystery set in 1930s Naples. . . . Engaging characters and melancholy atmosphere.” —Publishers Weekly “One of the most entrancing series of crime novels.” —Shots Magazine “An absolutely terrific series.” —Open Letters Monthly

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi: By My Hand Maurizio de Giovanni, 2014-08-14 As Naples prepares for its holiday celebrations, behind the facade of order and happiness imposed by the fascist regime, lurks terrible poverty and blinding desperation. In a luxurious apartment on the Mergellina beach lie the bodies of a fascist militia officer and his wife. A statuette of San Giuseppe, patron saint of workers, lies in pieces on the floor near their bodies. At the scene of the crime, Ricciardi, who has the dubious gift of being able to see and hear the last seconds in the lives of those who have suffered a violent death, listens to the enigmatic last words of the couple. Accompanied by his faithful partner, Brigadier Raffaele Maione, and once more troubled by two women who compete for his attentions, the Commissario will have to trace a wide and frenetic arc through the streets of Naples in order to uncover the truth. De Giovanni has created one of the most interesting and well-drawn detectives in fiction, and this book is a real treat that should not be missed by crime lovers.— The Daily Beast Impossible to resist.— emCrimetime UK

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi: Cold for the Bastards of Pizzofalcone Maurizio de Giovanni, 2019-05-28 Naples detectives face a coldblooded killer amid the chill of winter in the third book of the Italian author’s acclaimed mystery thriller series. A heinous double murder in a squalid apartment on the wrong side of town pits the motley collection of cops known as the “bastards” of the Pizzofalcone precinct against their superiors, the press, and the local political hierarchy. Now Inspector Lojacono and Officer Di Nardo must work against the brutal headwinds and bring the killer to justice if there’s to be any hope of saving their reputations. As with

his acclaimed historical mystery series featuring Commissario Ricciardi De Giovanni, Maurizio de Giovanni once again brings the dark side of Naples to light with the Bastards of Pizzofalcone. One of the most popular and prolific mystery authors in Europe, his award-winning novels offer a brilliant vision of the criminal underworld and the lives of the cops in Italy's most atmospheric, dangerous, and lustful city.

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi: *Puppies* Maurizio de Giovanni, 2020-07-21 An abandoned baby and a missing dog lead a group of Neapolitan cops to murder and mayhem in this mystery by the author of *Cold for the Bastards*. The next installment in Maurizio de Giovanni's bestselling "Bastards of Pizzofalcone" series unfolds during the crisp beginning of April in contemporary Naples as a new evil spreads throughout the city. . . . A baby is left abandoned beside a dumpster. A young Ukrainian maid fights the torrents of greed and frustration with the world around her. Small animals begin to disappear off the streets. The task of solving these mysteries is entrusted to a team of policemen in which few believe: the Bastards of Pizzofalcone. Complete with stirrings in the city's criminal underbelly and a fight against a seemingly inhuman evil, this novel is sure to delight fans of de Giovanni's previous works. De Giovanni is one of Europe's most renowned and versatile mystery writers. His award-winning and bestselling novels, all of which take place in Naples, engage readers in gripping tales of Europe's most fabled, atmospheric, dangerous, and lustful city. "A rich ensemble cast lifts de Giovanni's funny, poignant fourth police procedural featuring the "losers and pariahs" who man the little Pizzofalcone police station located in the heart of Naples. . . . De Giovanni is a master of the witty, elegantly plotted fair-play mystery." —Publishers Weekly, starred review

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi: *Nameless Serenade* Maurizio de Giovanni, 2019-10-08 The ninth Commissario Ricciardi Neapolitan mystery is noir with a heart, haunting and beautiful . . . A literary thriller of exceptional quality (NB Magazine). Years ago, Vinnie Sannino left Naples on a ship bound for America, where he found fame and fortune as a boxer. But his gilded life in the new world came to an abrupt end when, during a fight, with a heavy punch to the head of his opponent, Vinnie killed a man in the ring. Now, Vinnie's back in Italy, pining for the woman he left behind. Cettina, however, is now a married woman. She was, at least, until her husband was recently found dead, killed by a single blow to the head. For Commissario Ricciardi, one of the most faceted cops in fiction, and his partner Maione, it is a going to be a long, rainy, week in Naples. Deep melancholy infuses the crafty whodunit plot of de Giovanni's superior ninth mystery set in 1930s Italy . . . Ricciardi, who's literally haunted by visions of the dead, continues to be one of the most nuanced and intriguing sleuths in contemporary crime fiction. — Publishers Weekly (starred review) De Giovanni is one of the best historical crime writers out there. His Commissario Ricciardi novels, set during the fascist period in Italy, are intelligent and totally engrossing. *Nameless Serenade* is a perfect addition to the series; a really satisfying murder mystery, an insight into 1930s Naples and a thrilling chapter in the life of the Commissario. Lyrical prose and intriguing rounded characters contribute to making this one of the finest in the Ricciardi chronicles. — NB Magazine

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi: *100 Greatest Literary Detectives* Eric Sandberg, 2018-04-12 Crime fiction is one of the most popular literary genres and has been for more than a century. At the heart of almost all forms of mysteries—from the Golden Age puzzler to the contemporary police procedural, from American hardboiled fiction to the Japanese timetable mystery—is the investigator. He—or, increasingly, she—can be a private eye, a police officer, or a general busybody. But whatever forms these investigators take, they are the key element of crime fiction. Criminals and their crimes come and go, while our attention is captured by these fascinating characters who exist at the intersection of so many different literary and social roles. *100 Greatest Literary Detectives* offers a selection of the most influential, important, and intriguing fictional sleuths—amateur or professional—from around the world. From Sherlock Holmes to Harry Hole, Kinsey Millhone to Kiyoshi Mitarai, the detectives profiled here give readers a broader picture of one of fiction's most popular genres. Each entry summarizes the distinctive features of notable

investigators and their approaches to crime, provides a brief outline of major features of their fictional careers, and makes a case for their importance based on literary-historical impact, novelty, uniqueness, aesthetic quality, or cultural resonance. The characters profiled here include Lew Archer, Martin Beck, Father Brown, Brother Cadfael, Adam Dalgliesh, Mike Hammer, Miss Jane Marple, Hercule Poirot, Ellery Queen, Ezekiel "Easy" Rawlins, Kay Scarpetta, Sam Spade, Phillip Trent, V. I. Warshawski, Lord Peter Wimsey, Nero Wolfe, and many others. Readers will find some of their favorite detectives here, learn more about their literary and cultural significance, and discover other great sleuths—old and new, local and international—in this engaging volume. 100 Greatest Literary Detectives provides a fascinating look into some of the most intriguing fictional characters of all time.

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi: Glass Souls Maurizio de Giovanni, 2017-07-18 The eighth Commissario Ricciardi historical mystery from the author of *The Bottom of Your Heart* "will surprise readers at every turn" (La Repubblica). In the abyss of a profound personal crisis, Commissario Ricciardi feels unable to open himself up to life. He has refused the love of both Enrica and Livia and the friendship of his partner, Maione. Contentment for Ricciardi proves as elusive as clues to the latest crime he has been asked to investigate. The beautiful, haughty Bianca, countess of Roccaspina, pleads with Ricciardi to investigate a homicide that was officially closed months ago. In the tense, charged atmosphere of 1930s Italy, where Benito Mussolini and his fascist thugs monitor the police closely, an unauthorized investigation is grounds for immediate dismissal and possible criminal charges. But Ricciardi's thirst for justice cannot be sated. A tightly plotted historical noir novel, this eighth installment in the Commissario Ricciardi series is a gripping meditation on revenge and justice in which each character's soul reveals itself to be made of glass. "The construction of *Glass Souls* is remarkable. It's like a very sophisticated mosaic in which each protagonist occupies precisely the right amount of space." —La Repubblica "Love, longing, and loss suffuse de Giovanni's elegiac, autumnal eighth Commissario Ricciardi mystery set in 1930s Naples . . . Though Ricciardi risks infuriating his bosses—and unknowingly even greater danger from the Fascist forces who have him under surveillance—he can't resist the conundrum. Nor in all likelihood will readers." —Publishers Weekly "A must read for those interested in exploring International Noir." —Mystery Tribune

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi: Darkness for the Bastards of Pizzofalcone Maurizio de Giovanni, 2016-08-02 Second in the contemporary Italian crime fiction series featuring Inspector Lojacono by the bestselling author of the Commissario Ricciardi novels. A kidnapped child and the burglary of a high-class apartment: Two crimes that seem to have no connection at all until Inspector Lojacono, known as "The Chinaman," starts to investigate. *Darkness for the Bastards of Pizzofalcone* is the second book in a series set in contemporary Naples that draws inspiration from Ed McBain's 87th Precinct novels and features a large cast of complicated cops doing battle with ruthless criminals. De Giovanni is one of the most dexterous and successful writers of crime fiction currently working in Europe. His award-winning and bestselling novels, all set in Naples, offer a brilliant vision of the criminal underworld and the police that battle it in Europe's most fabled, atmospheric, dangerous, and lustful city. "Imagine Fellini and Chandler collaborating on a Neapolitan remake of *Our Town*, and that begins to give you an idea of what you're in for with *Darkness for the Bastards of Pizzofalcone*. . . . While de Giovanni never wavers from a world where terrible people do terrible things, motivated by selfishness, greed, and loathing (for themselves, for others, for both), he illuminates the soft underbelly of fear and loss without being manipulative." —Los Angeles Review of Books "The police characters are flawed, lovable, and believable—you cannot but take to them. . . . Naples comes through loud and clear in the story." —Tripfiction

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi: The Bastards of Pizzofalcone Maurizio de Giovanni, 2016-04-05 The "engrossing" sequel to *The Crocodile* kicks off an Italian crime fiction series by the author of the bestselling Commissario Ricciardi novels (Publishers Weekly). They've made a fresh start at the Pizzofalcone precinct of Naples. They fired every member of the investigative branch after they were found guilty of corruption. Now, there's a group of

detectives, a new commissario, and a new superintendent. The new cops immediately find themselves investigating a high-profile murder that has the whole town on edge. Heading the investigation is Inspector Lojacono, known as “the Chinaman,” a cop with a checkered past who is currently riding a reputation as a crack investigator after having captured a serial killer known as “The Crocodile.” Lojacono’s partner is Aragona, who wants to be known as “Serpico,” but the name doesn’t stick. Luigi Palma, a.k.a. “Gigi,” is the commissario, Francesco Romano, known as “Hulk,” is the slightly self-deluded lieutenant. Lojacono, Aragona, Palma, and Romano are joined by a cast of cops portrayed by bestselling author Maurizio de Giovanni with depth and intimate knowledge of the close-knit world of police investigators. De Giovanni’s award-winning and bestselling novels, all set in Naples, offer a brilliant vision of the criminal underworld and the lives of the cops in Europe’s most fabled, atmospheric, dangerous, and lustful city. “Colorful, fully drawn characters and several intriguing subplots help propel the plot to a satisfying resolution.” —Publishers Weekly “De Giovanni provides satisfyingly logical answers to every riddle . . . Despite the Neapolitan setting, the crew of mismatched cops may remind you of similar teams in Sweden, New York, or Hollywood. Not that there’s anything wrong with that.” —Kirkus Reviews

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi: Italian Literature since 1900 in English Translation Robin Healey, 2019-03-14 Providing the most complete record possible of texts by Italian writers active after 1900, this annotated bibliography covers over 4,800 distinct editions of writings by some 1,700 Italian authors. Many entries are accompanied by useful notes that provide information on the authors, works, translators, and the reception of the translations. This book includes the works of Pirandello, Calvino, Eco, and more recently, Andrea Camilleri and Valerio Manfredi. Together with Robin Healey’s *Italian Literature before 1900 in English Translation*, also published by University of Toronto Press in 2011, this volume makes comprehensive information on translations from Italian accessible for schools, libraries, and those interested in comparative literature.

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi: Italian Crime Fiction in the Era of the Anti-Mafia Movement William Farina, 2020-03-13 Over the last three decades, Italian crime fiction has demonstrated a trend toward a much higher level of realism and complexity. The origins of the New Italian Epic, as it has been coined by some of its proponents, can be found in the widespread backlash against the Mafia-sponsored murders of Sicilian magistrates which culminated with the assassinations of Judges Giovanni Falcone and Paolo Borsellino in 1992. Though beginning in the Italian language, this prolific, popular movement has more recently found its way into the English language and hence it has found a much wider international audience. Following a brief, yet detailed, history of the cultural and economic development of Sicily, this book provides a multilayered look into the evolution of the New Italian Epic genre. The works of ten prominent contemporary writers, including Andrea Camilleri, Michael Dibdin, Elena Ferrante, and Massimo Carlotto, are examined against the backdrop of various historical periods. This past is prologue approach to contemporary crime fiction provides context for the creation of these recent novels and enhances understanding of the complex moral ambiguity that is characteristic of anti-mafia Italian crime fiction.

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi: *Per mano mia. Il Natale del commissario Ricciardi* Maurizio De Giovanni, 2013

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi: *Per mano mia* Maurizio de Giovanni, 2011-10-25 «E invece eccomi qui, rifletté. Di nuovo sulla breccia, come se nulla fosse accaduto. Come se non fossi morto un altro po', come ogni volta che scopro quanto nera può essere un'anima. Come se fossi ancora vivo». Il romanzo che inaugura il nuovo ciclo del commissario Ricciardi. In attesa del Natale, in una Napoli dove si gela di freddo e si muore di fame, familiare e sconosciuta, Ricciardi deve capire le ragioni e le menzogne di un'intera città. Una città che si stende davanti a lui «come un immenso Presepe». Dove bisogna parlare la lingua dei morti per scoprire ricchezza e miseria della vita.

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi: *Die Gabe des Commissario*

Ricciardi Maurizio de Giovanni, 2012-09-17 Commissario Ricciardi ist ein Ermittler mit einer besonderen Fähigkeit. Der intelligente, melancholische Einzelgänger aus reichem Elternhaus besitzt eine Gabe, die sein Schicksal bestimmt: Er hört die letzten Gedanken von Ermordeten, sieht sie gefangen im Augenblick ihres Todes. »Mütze und Handschuhe« - das sind die letzten Worte der Frau, die zusammen mit ihrem Ehemann in ihrem Haus ermordet aufgefunden wird. Als Commissario Ricciardi erfährt, dass der tote Ehemann ein Funktionär der faschistischen Miliz und eiskalter Karrierist war, vermutet er einen Racheakt. Die vermeintlichen Täter sind schnell gefunden, doch nicht alles ist so klar, wie es scheint ...

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi: Per mano mia. Il commissario Ricciardi Maurizio De Giovanni, Claudio Falco, 2020

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi: Le Noël du commissaire Ricciardi Maurizio De Giovanni, 2018-11-07 En cette fin d'année 1931, Naples est en pleine effervescence à l'approche des fêtes de Noël. Et pourtant, en cette période de réjouissances, une note discordante résonne : dans un luxueux logement près du port, on retrouve les corps d'un centurion de la milice fasciste et de son épouse, baignant dans leur sang. Flanké de son fidèle adjoint le brigadier Maione, le commissaire Ricciardi va une fois encore traquer la vérité dans les rues de la ville où le crime ne connaît pas de trêve.

by my hand the christmas of commissario ricciardi: El Nadal del comissari Ricciardi (Comissari Ricciardi 5) Maurizio de Giovanni, 2013-11-01 El talent narratiu que Maurizio de Giovanni havia mostrat als anteriors títols de «Comissari Ricciardi» es fa ara més rotund encara en aquest volum. I és que, a El Nadal del comissari Ricciardi, domina com mai l'equilibri entre intriga i comprensió del gènere humà. La novel·la de la venjança. Mentre arriba Nadal, en un Nàpols on la gent es mor de gana i de fred, en Ricciardi ha d'entendre les raons i les mentides de tota una ciutat. Una ciutat que s'estén davant seu «com un immens pessebre» i on cal parlar la llengua dels morts per descobrir les riqueses i les misèries de la vida. El comissari Ricciardi, ajudat pel sergent Maione, investiga el brutal assassinat d'un cap de la milícia feixista del port de Nàpols i de la seva dona, pocs dies abans de Nadal. La crítica ha dit... «Només cal deixar-se portar, hipnotitzats i plenament seduïts per aquesta filigrana feta amb paraules, on l'escriptor abandona les persecucions i la munició del thriller americà i opta per una investigació feta de murmuris.» Ramon Ventura, El Periódico

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