



Pinch Me

by Barbara Boyle



Non-Fiction - Memoir

216 Pages

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Book Review

Reviewed by Nino Lobiladze for Readers' Favorite

Pinch Me by Barbara Boyle is for fans of memoirs, cultural, and adventure non-fiction books. Barbara and Kim spend their honeymoon traveling across Europe. While Barbara is an experienced traveler, she has never been to Monforte, a small town in the region of Piedmont, Italy. After hours of driving through cold rain, Barbara and Kim arrive in Monforte. Hospitable locals impress the couple with their appealing life philosophy, tasty food, and extraordinary wine. Barbara and Kim make a life-changing decision to leave San Francisco for Monforte. They want to buy a house in Monforte, even if it means the reconstruction of a neglected building. Barbara and Kim find a barn that is three hundred years old. They know the reconstruction is time-consuming, but the final result, new friendships, and a spirit of exciting adventure are worth the waiting.

I would describe Barbara Boyle's Pinch Me as "delicious." This book is like the comforting Italian food that sustains one during challenging times and makes every celebration joyful. The author adds detailed recipes of her favorite foods and drinks, which I cannot wait to try! The book is humorous, inspirational, and heartfelt. Barbara's immense love for Italy shines through every chapter of her memoir. The author deeply understands and impeccably defines the soul of the country that became her second home, its customs, holidays, and traditions. Barbara and Kim's friendship with their elderly neighbors, Piero and Innes, and respectful and loving attitude toward older people set an example of kindness and compassion. The book is well-balanced. The author never sugarcoats her experience of living in Italy. It is a genuine, positive, and engrossing tale of finding and constructing a true home.