

READ GLOBAL BOOK GROUP

Auntie Poldi and the Sicilian Lions

by Mario Giordano

Questions

(adapted from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

1. Poldi is sexy and sassy, with a vibrant romantic life --- characteristics we often see in younger protagonists, but not often in older ones. In what other ways does Poldi break with convention?
2. The author evokes a very strong sense of place. What were you drawn to most, the descriptions of the food, or of the landscape?
3. Poldi is immediately accepted by her neighbors, perhaps in spite of her quirks. But while she is an insider in many ways, she is also still an outsider as an expatriate. How does she reconcile this contradiction?
4. Why do you think Poldi choose policemen to photograph? What does it say about her thoughts surrounding authority?
5. Why do Valérie and Poldi hit it off immediately? What do they see in each other that leads to their strong friendship?
6. Poldi and her nephew are very different, and very close. How is it that they tend to get along so well?
7. Why do you think Vito Montana finds himself so attracted to Poldi?
8. If you could choose any place to retire, as Poldi chose Sicily, where would you go and why?
9. Why does Poldi feel so honor-bound to Valentino? Could her motivation to solve his murder also be driven by self-interest?
10. Poldi is close to the sisters. How are they burdensome? How are they helpful?
11. Who would you cast as Poldi in movie or TV series?

Notes

If you'd like some additional atmosphere, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt recommends recipes for food and drink from another one of their publications, [*1,000 Italian Recipes*](#) by Michele Scicolone. 641.5945 S

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