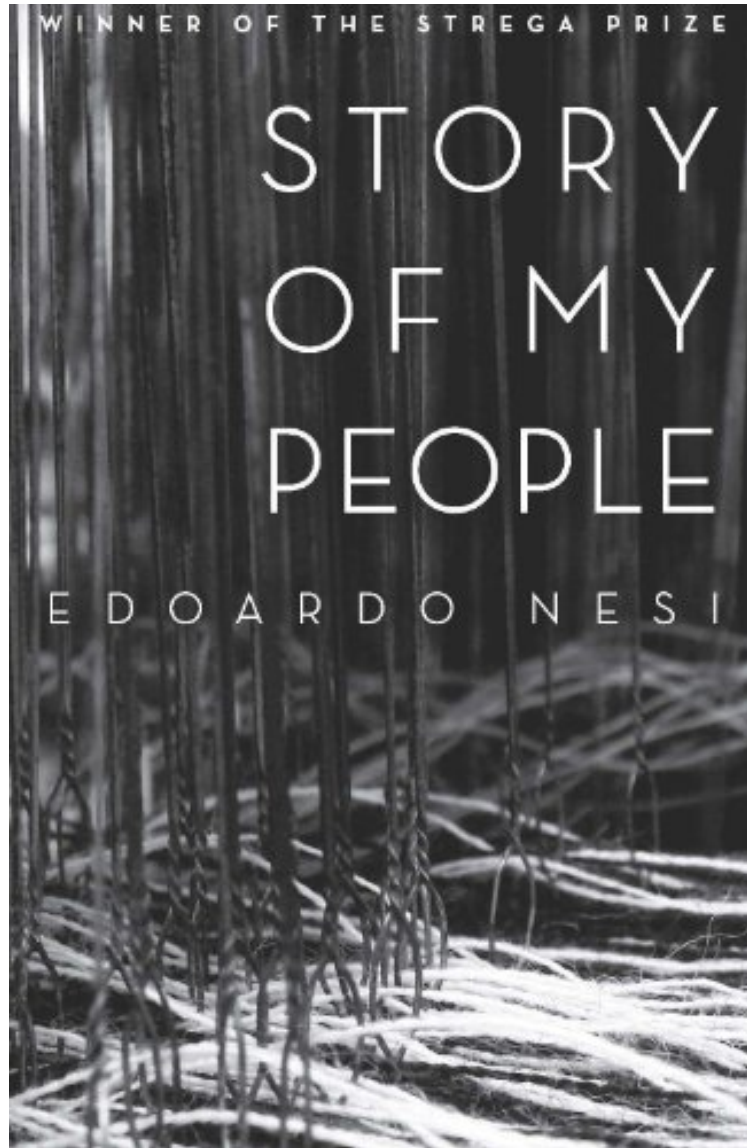


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Story of My People

Edoardo Nesi

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Edoardo Nesi : Story of My People before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Story of My People:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Sad but true
By JimI enjoyed this even though it is the story of a business being destroyed and a country being harmed by 'free trade'. I have been to Italy and loved it. It's a shame to see this type of thing happening. It tells of a factory being bought out by Chinese companies and then they send in workers to run the machinery and sleep on the factory floor. They do this so they can still say the products are made in Italy. There was an article in the news this past week about a fire in a factory in Italy in which some workers died.

They were some of twelve Chinese workers living in a room in the factory where they worked. Exactly the type of thing this book covers. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Spectacular Gem By Marilyn Gottlieb This spectacular gem of a book is one of the best nonfiction books I have read. As a writer who included a segment on Prato's textile machinery manufacturers in my book, *Life with an Accent*, I am in awe at the prose and the way Nesi handles serious political and current events that impact ordinary citizens. I plan to buy a dozen copies to give as gifts to all those who ask my husband to explain his business relationship with machine manufacturers in Tuscany and why the textile industry has changed in America as well as Italy. It is both an important story that must be told and a damn good read. Marilyn Gottlieb, author, *Life with an Accent*. Life with an Accent: One Immigrant's Quest to Belong 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great read By brayk This is a very well written and enjoyable book to read. The tone and subject of the book may be very dark and sad but the authors writing style makes this digestible. It was very quick read only taking half a day but it seems even shorter cause the book just draws and keeps you drawn in. On top of the great book you can't even tell it has been translated from Italian, which was something I was worried about when I first got the book. Overall this is a great read!

Winner of the 2011 Strega Prize, this blend of essay, social criticism, and memoir is a striking portrait of the effects of globalization on Italy's declining economy. Starting from his family's textile factory in Prato, Tuscany, Edoardo Nesi examines the recent shifts in Italy's manufacturing industry. Only one generation ago, Prato was a thriving industrial center that prided itself on craftsmanship and quality. But during the last decade, cheaply made goods—produced overseas or in Italy by poorly paid immigrants—saturated the market, making it impossible for Italian companies to keep up. In 2004 his family was forced to sell the textile factory. How this could have happened? Nesi asks, and what are the wider repercussions of losing businesses like his family's, especially for Italian culture? *Story of My People* is a denouncement of big business, corrupt politicians, the arrogance of economists, and cheap manufacturing. It's a must-read for anyone seeking insight into the financial crisis that's striking Europe today.

"The History of My People" is one of those knockout punches that literature throws at the world every now and then --Sandro Veronesi "Nesi is one of the few writers that have succeeded in depicting the dark underbelly of globalism." --Luciano Lanna, "Secolo d'Italia" "A beautiful and touching book ... Whether or not you agree with its message, it has one undeniable virtue: it makes you think." --Giorgio Marabini, "Sabato Sera" "The History of My People" is a transcendent song, both epic and lyrical, on industrial and human labor." --Antonio Pennacchi "Do you know what I would do if I became leader of the Democratic Party? I would take this courageous book and turn it into a chapter of my political project. "The History of My People" is about the love of a people for its roots, a community for its land, and a city for its industry." --Massimo Giannini "A remarkable evocation of the vanished world of artisan capitalism in Tuscany, swept away by hurricane globalization. 'Why should this destruction be?' asks the author and former owner of a small family textile business, in a mingled cry of pain and anger." --Robert Skidelsky, author of "How Much is Enough?: Money and the Good Life" "Who would have thought that memoir and polemic could work together so well? A totally absorbing story, and a portrait of modern Italy." --Sarah Bakewell, author of "How to Live" "Story of My People" is one of those knockout punches that literature -- Sandro Veronesi "Nesi is one of the few writers that have succeeded in depicting the dark underbelly of globalism." -- Luciano Lanna, "Secolo d'Italia" "A beautiful and touching book ... Whether or not you agree with its message, it has one undeniable virtue: it makes you think." --Giorgio Marabini, "Sabato Sera" "Story of My People" is a transcendent song, both epic and lyrical, on industrial and human labor." --Antonio Pennacchi "Do you know what I would do if I became leader of the Democratic Party? I would take this courageous book and turn it into a chapter of my political project. "Story of My People" is about the love of a people for its roots, a community for its land, and a city for its industry." --Massimo Giannini "Who would have thought that memoir and polemic could work together so well? A totally absorbing story, and a portrait of modern Italy." --Sarah Bakewell, author of "How to Live" "A searing indictment of globalization's failures, and the inability of politicians and pundits to consider its impact on real lives...much of the book is sad, honest, and biting; overall it is an important work." --"Publishers Weekly" "Story of My People" is one of those knockout punches that literature throws at the world every now and then" --Sandro Veronesi "Story of My People" is a well-told story but also an eloquent and pained wail about loss. Globalization has swallowed up the artisans, the families and the beautiful fabrics at the heart of Prato's weaving industry, and a world has unraveled like a skein of yarn. While Nesi clearly understands the economics and even the inevitability of this transition for Italy's family manufacturers, he will not let this world disappear without describing it for the rest of us. A business and family can do everything right and still have everything go wrong. This is an important, poetic, and personal work of industrial history." --Pietra Rivoli, author of "The Travels of a T-shirt in the Global Economy" "This unique book--part memoir, part argument for the reformation of the global financial system--tumbles out of itself on the page, and reading it was an equally propulsive experience. It rhapsodizes and slaps its chest in true Italian style, makes frequent allusions with a disarming bluntness (to Machiavelli, to Richard Ford, to Paul Newman movies), and

always has something to say. I finished and instantly went back to re-read certain pages." --John Jeremiah Sullivan, author of "Pulphhead" and writer for the "New York Times Magazine" "A remarkable evocation of the vanished world of artisan capitalism in Tuscany, swept away by hurricane globalization. 'Why should this destruction be?' asks the author and former" Edoardo Nesi has written a short memoir of great charm, for all its sadness a pleasure to read... Mr. Nesi's sense of loss will touch hearts much farther afield, wherever the West's world-class industries have fallen to free trade and the Internet." --"The New York Times" "This unique book--part memoir, part argument for the reformation of the global financial system--tumbles out of itself on the page, and reading it was an equally propulsive experience. It rhapsodizes and slaps its chest in true Italian style, makes frequent allusions with a disarming bluntness (to Machiavelli, to Richard Ford, to Paul Newman movies), and always has something to say. I finished and instantly went back to re-read certain pages." --"John Jeremiah Sullivan, author of "Pulphhead" and writer for the "New York Times Magazine" "Who would have thought that memoir and polemic could work together so well? A totally absorbing story, and a portrait of modern Italy." --Sarah Bakewell, author of "How to Live" "A searing indictment of globalization's failures, and the inability of politicians and pundits to consider its impact on real lives...much of the book is sad, honest, and biting; overall it is an important work." --"Publishers Weekly" "We all know that globalization has disrupted industries around the world, but we don't always connect disruption to the destruction of ways of life--the social fabric that globalization can rend and tear. "Story of My People," by Edoardo Nesi, a polemic fueled by grief and rage at the devastating effect of globalization on the Italian textile industry, makes that connection tangible." --"Strategy+Business" "At once a memoir, a requiem, and a work of social and literary criticism about the toll this shift took on his city and psyche...fiercely angry, conflicted, and often beautifully written." --"Bookforum" "Story of My People" is one of those knockout punches that literature throws at the world every now and then About the Author Edoardo Nesi is an Italian writer, filmmaker, and translator. He began his career translating the work of such authors as Bruce Chatwin, Malcolm Lowry, Stephen King, and Quentin Tarantino. He has written six novels, one of which, *L'eterno ritorno*, was a finalist for the 2005 Strega Prize and a winner of the Bruno Cavallini Prize. He wrote and directed the film *Fughe da fermo* (Fandango, 2001), based on his novel of the same name, and has translated David Foster Wallace's *Infinite Jest*. Antony Shugaar is an author and translator. His most recent publication, written with the International Spy Museum in Washington DC, is *I Lie for a Living*, and he is the coauthor of *Latitude Zero*. His most recent translations include *I Hadn't Understood* by Diego De Silva, *The Nun* by Simonetta Agnello Hornby, and *The Path to Hope* by Steffen Hessel and Edgar Morin (Other Press, 2012). He is also a freelance journalist who reviews for the Boston Globe and the Washington Post.