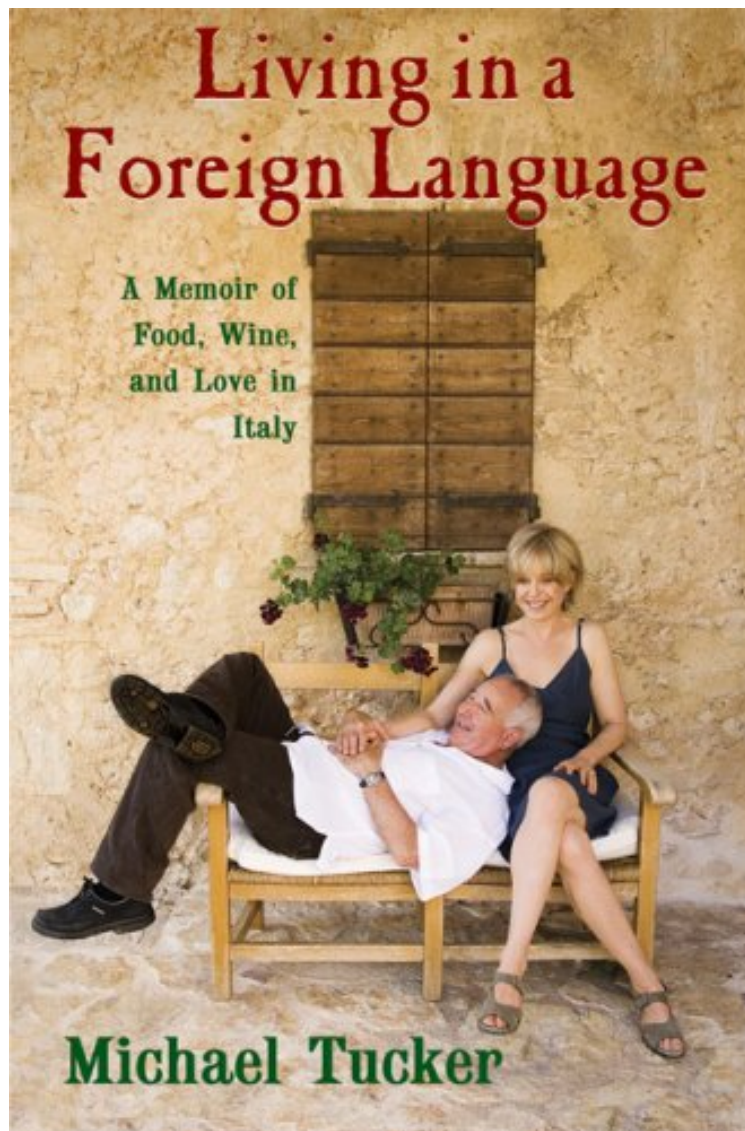


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# Living in a Foreign Language: A Memoir of Food, Wine, and Love in Italy

*Michael Tucker*

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**Michael Tucker : Living in a Foreign Language: A Memoir of Food, Wine, and Love in Italy** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Living in a Foreign Language: A Memoir of Food, Wine, and Love in Italy:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Transporting!By T. OzDuring a stressful time in my life, when I needed to escape without actually leaving home, this book came into my life. I have visited Italy once in my life and

fell head over heels in love with it. From the food, to the wine, to the art, history, natural beauty, culture and people—what a truly wonderful place! This book helped me to return to a place I truly love. At times it brought tears to my eyes to feel transported by this book. It is a very well written and relatable book. You feel like you are there and you get a real taste of 'la dolce vita'. Didn't want it to end! Thank you, Michael Tucker, for sharing your experience in this book. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Tucker is funny, honest and totally himself. By Suzanne Dobbins "The tiny stone house sits tucked into the side of the hill so that our bedroom window isn't exposed to the early rays of the sun, but that morning I was up with the first soft light in the sky. I had slept the sleep of the sated. Perhaps the three glasses of grappa at the end of dinner had helped a bit with that. Along with the bottomless pitcher of the local red wine that went down so easily with the wood-grilled lamb and the fried potatoes. God, those potatoes. Maybe it was all a dream; I never eat potatoes after a big bowl of pasta. Not in the same meal. Not in real life." For anyone who loves to savor the joys that fresh, well-prepared food has to offer, *Living in a Foreign Language: A Memoir of Food, Wine, and Love in Italy* will make you yearn for the Italian countryside as you salivate with longing for the culinary experiences shared by Michael Tucker and his actress wife. In the early years of this new millenia, Tucker finally gets his wish. His wife, Jill Eikenberry, gives him the go-ahead to purchase a home in Umbria, and their lives have never been the same since. *Living in a Foreign Language: A Memoir of Food, Wine, and Love in Italy* is Tucker's memoir of the couple's lives during the purchase and renovation of their beloved Italian country home, and the way that purchase helped to change the direction of their personal and professional lives. Tucker is funny, honest and totally himself in this treasure of a book. I loved his experiences in Italy - the food, the wine, the friends and the countryside. It's a lot like sitting with someone and having them tell you a good story. Don't expect historical background or vivid prose-like descriptions. Do expect Tucker's own language - the "f" bombs scattered across the pages, apparently come with the story and the man. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A good story about moving along in life! By J. pascento Well written story of the lives of two people as they make the transition from their American way of life to their Italian way of lives. They made the change together with no apparent difficulties as a lesson to face new challenges head on. As my wife and I prepare to uproot our lives of almost 70 years in the northeast with a move to Florida, I find that following Michael Tucker's attitude along with his wife Jill Eijenberg the move will be a great new adventure in our lives.

The actor Michael Tucker and his wife, the actress Jill Eikenberry, having sent their last child off to college, were vacationing in Italy when they happened upon a small cottage nestled in the Umbrian countryside. The three-hundred-fifty-year-old rustico sat perched on a hill in the verdant Spoleto valley amid an olive grove and fruit trees of every kind. For the Tuckers, it was literally love at first sight, and the couple purchased the house without testing the water pressure or checking for signs of termites. Shedding the vestiges of their American life, Michael and Jill endeavored to learn the language, understand the nuances of Italian culture, and build a home in this new chapter of their lives. Both a celebration of a good marriage and a careful study of the nature of home, *Living in a Foreign Language* is a gorgeous, organic travelogue written with an epicurean's delight in detail and a gourmand's appreciation for all things fine.

From Publishers Weekly In this lighthearted memoir by television's former L.A. Law star, Tucker delve graciously into the rich lifestyle, cuisine and local wine of central Italy when he and his wife, actress Jill Eikenberry, make an impromptu purchase of a 350-year-old stone cottage in the Umbrian countryside. The Tuckers break away from the Bay Area to acquaint themselves with the Rustico, their new second home. Despite speaking limited Italian, they quickly befriend their expatriate and Italian neighbors and with them set out to celebrate the regional cuisine found in local trattorias, tavernas and the aromatic kitchens of new acquaintances. Language gaffes and the occasional couple's spat is to be expected, as the Tuckers begin to re-evaluate their lives. The simplicity and heartiness of Umbria begins to feel more like home for them, and little by little the Tuckers let go of their more career-ambitious lives in the U.S. Jill's revitalization of her theater career in New York becomes as much of an accomplishment as her taking art classes with 16 non-English-speaking Italian housewives. Tucker simply appreciates his relationships forged with Gloria, the owner of the local orta-frutta shop and the town's butchers. Guileless narrative intertwined with generous descriptions of Italian fare make Tucker's food memoir and travelogue a satisfying look into the good life. (July) Copyright copy; Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Driving through Italy, television actors Michael Tucker and Jill Eikenberry and her young Korean^B assistant are seduced by the stately, relaxed pace of Italian life. Swapping their dream of a house in Provence for an Italian venue, they find a friend's home for sale near Spoleto, and Tucker quickly seals a deal. The delights of Italian food awaken Tucker's latent epicure. His determined compulsion to savor every edible raised on local farms ultimately obliges him to spend some serious hours at the local gym. Returning for a time to their California home, they want to share their love of Italian food by hosting a dinner party, but egocentric American friends can't even gracefully accept this generous invitation, citing a catalog of dietary restrictions and food fears. Foodies will slaver and bristle with envy at the surfeit of pungently fresh truffles that appear at seemingly every meal. Mark Knoblauch Copyright copy; American Library

Association. All rights reserved "Michael Tucker's Living in a Foreign Language is a rollicking, food-and fun-filled chronicle of his and his wife Jill's international traveling circus. From New York to Los Angeles to Marin county to Italy and New York again, It's an odyssey of change and growth filled with good wine, fine food, and great friends. Infused with love, the Tuckers' saga of building a home (and a life) in Umbria, Italy, is as warm and irresistible as a freshly baked pizza." -- Steven Bochco