



Università
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Non stancarti di andare/ Keep going

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Non stancarti di andare by Teresa Radice and Stefano Turconi tells the story of two lovers: Iris, a naturalistic illustrator and Ismail, a professor of archeology and calligraphy. In 2013, their lives change when Ismail, going back to his homeland in Syria to tie up a few loose ends before finally moving to Liguria with Iris, finds himself in the midst of a war. The novel follows not only the tale of his troubled journey back to Italy, but also Iris' pregnancy, that she discovers right after her partner's departure, and the story of her family: from emigration from Argentina in the 1930s until the first meeting with Ismail, in a Syria that is now utterly different from the one that first saw their love grow.

The Jews and the Este Family of Ferrara

In the fifteenth century the Jewish community began to grow steadily, because the Lords of the House of Este granted the Jews freedom of worship. In 1492 the Jewish community of Ferrara began to widen thanks to the arrival of the Jews escaped from Spain, as Ercole I D'Este allowed them to practice the medical arts to Christian patients, the right to manage pharmacies, and fiscal incentives for those bringing their riches to the State. This policy met the resistance of the clergy, which obtained the enactment of a decree addressed to all the Israelites of the Duchy: the obligation to wear the yellow hat or the penalty of four lashes and a 200 ducats fine. Duke Alfonso II could not resist the pressures of the Church and of the Inquisition and in 1581 he arrested a large number of Portuguese "conversos", some of whom were burned at the stake in Rome. In 1597, Ferrara was again under the rule of the Papal State and, to seal the changed situation, the Jewish ghetto was ordered. It would be built in 1626-27.



The Italian Association *Cittadini del Mondo*, established in 1993, is a multiethnic organization with the purpose to foster immigration and advocate for immigrants. The Association organizes political, cultural and social events, in order to promote dialogue and exchanges between cultures and to spread the culture of integration. The organization's central issues are proposals for improvements of the condition of immigrants in Italy, the fight against racism and discrimination, new immigration laws, political asylum and residence permits. The organization *Cittadini del Mondo* pays special attention to integration by promoting cultural exchange with informal sports events, cooking classes and multiethnic parties, and Italian language classes. Every Saturday afternoon the headquarters of the association accommodate craft workshops for children and relaxing activities for women.

