



Behind Closed Doors: Her Father's House and Other Stories of Sicily

By Maria Messina

Feminist Press at The City University of New York. Hardback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Behind Closed Doors: Her Father's House and Other Stories of Sicily, Maria Messina, With an ear for dialogue that may be compared to Tillie Olsen, Grace Paley, and Ernest Hemingway, Sicilian writer Maria Messina presents the captivating and brutal realities of women living in early-twentieth-century Italy in this first collection of her work available in English. "Behind Closed Doors" portrays the habits and gestures, the words spoken and those left unsaid, of individuals caught between the traditions they respect and a desire to ease the social restrictions in their lives. Messina's stories reveal a world in which women are shuttered in their houses, virtual servants to their families, and working men immigrate to the United States in fortune-seeking droves. It is also a world of unstated privileges in which habits and implied commands perpetuate women's servitude. A cultural album that captures the lives of peasant, working-class, and middle-class women, this volume will appeal to millions of Italian descendants and readers everywhere fascinated by Italian history.

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