



Roan Johnson
Prove di felicità a Roma Est

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"For me being a loser was a vocation. My mother would have said that it was because I was too sensitive. I knew it was because I had been cheated"

Arturo is twenty-two and left his village to go to a private school in Rome. Now he lives with an old professor who is waiting for a transplant and has not left his flat for ages. To make ends meet he delivers pizzas, riding round Rome on a Vespa and is spying on people, their looks and their habits, trying to understand the city and the people who live there. With the ironic eye of a young provincial Tuscan newly arrived in the capital, Roan Johnson describes a contemporary Rome that is rough, vibrant and real: in the midst of pizza delivery boys, Bulgarians with absurd jobs, Ukrainian carers, retired teachers of Greek and agoraphobics, exploited school teachers. And above all Samia, the nymph with the salty heart. The girl who shines for a brief, brilliant season. and desperate love that marked his adolescence...

Roan Johnson, is a writer and filmmaker. He was born in London and grew up in Pisa with his Italian mother and British father. He went to film school in Rome, graduating from the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia. He published the novel *Prove di felicità a Roma Est* (2010, ed. Einaudi Stile Libero), which received a Berto Award, and has also directed three movies.

For more information: info@bgagency.it