



Queen Bee of Tuscany: The Redoubtable Janet Ross

Ben Downing

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"Quite simply one of the best books of the year." —Michael Dirda, *The Washington Post*

Ben Downing's *Queen Bee of Tuscany* brings an extraordinary Victorian back to life. Born into a distinguished intellectual family and raised among luminaries such as Dickens and Thackeray, Janet Ross married at eighteen and went to live in Egypt. There, for the next six years, she wrote for the *London Times*, hobnobbed with the developer of the Suez Canal, and humiliated pashas in horse races. In 1867 she moved to Florence, Italy where she spent the remaining sixty years of her life writing a series of books and hosting a colorful miscellany of friends and neighbors, from Mark Twain to Bernard Berenson, at Poggio Gherardo, her house in the hills above the city. Eventually she became the acknowledged doyenne of the Anglo-Florentine colony, as it was known. Yet she was also immersed in the rural life of Tuscany: An avid agriculturalist, she closely supervised the farms on her estate and the sharecroppers who worked them, often pitching in on grape and olive harvests.

Spirited, erudite, and supremely well-connected, Ross was one of the most dynamic women of her day. Her life offers a fascinating window on fascinating times, from the Risorgimento to the rise of fascism. Encompassing all this rich history, *Queen Bee of Tuscany* is a panoramic portrait of an age, a family, and our evolving love affair with Tuscany.

A *Washington Post* Notable Nonfiction Book of 2013

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Ian Ashlock:

This Queen Bee of Tuscany: The Redoubtable Janet Ross book is not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you get by reading this book is actually information inside this guide incredible fresh, you will get info which is getting deeper you actually read a lot of information you will get. This specific Queen Bee of Tuscany: The Redoubtable Janet Ross without we understand teach the one who reading through it become critical in thinking and analyzing. Don't become worry Queen Bee of Tuscany: The Redoubtable Janet Ross can bring if you are and not make your tote space or bookshelves' come to be full because you can have it inside your lovely laptop even mobile phone. This Queen Bee of Tuscany: The Redoubtable Janet Ross having good arrangement in word in addition to layout, so you will not sense uninterested in reading.

Douglas Barlow:

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Alan Levin:

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation or go to the outside with them household or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity here is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent all day every day to reading a book. The book Queen Bee of Tuscany: The Redoubtable Janet Ross it is very good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can m0ore quickly to read this book through your smart phone. The price is not to fund but this book possesses high quality.

Jeremy Richards:

Precisely why? Because this Queen Bee of Tuscany: The Redoubtable Janet Ross is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will surprise you with the secret it inside. Reading this book beside it was fantastic author who all write the book in such wonderful way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is

good for you for not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This phenomenal book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book have got such as help improving your proficiency and your critical thinking means. So , still want to delay having that book? If I were you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

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