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Contact: Gail Reitano, 415.215.1526, gail.reitano@gmail.com

SAN FRANCISCO BASED AUTHOR RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION FROM INDEPENDENT PRESS AWARD® FOR HER FIRST BOOK

San Francisco Bay Area – March 22, 2023 – The INDEPENDENT PRESS AWARD recognized [*Italian Love Cake*](#) by Gail Reitano in the category of General Fiction as a Distinguished Favorite.

The competition is judged by experts from different aspects of the book industry, including publishers, writers, editors, book cover designers, and professional copywriters. Selected IPA Award Winners and Distinguished Favorites are based on overall excellence.



Italian Love Cake

Fiction: general, historical, literary

US Publication: Bordighera Press

French editions: Éditions Anne Carrière (2022), Pocket, Univers Poche (2023).

On the eve of World War II, in a small, rural New Jersey town, the indomitable Marie Genovese, a first-generation Italian American, mourns her mother, battles a brother flirting with fascism, and demands her sexual freedom and autonomy, all while trying to save the family's struggling Five & Ten. Marie forges a daring path within the repressive, smalltown culture, while navigating its warring democratic and authoritarian visions for the future, making this a strikingly original and contemporary narrative.

In 2023, the INDEPENDENT PRESS AWARD had entries worldwide. Authors and publishers from Australia, Canada, Germany, India, Japan, Norway, Scotland, and South Africa participated. Submitted books included writers based in a variety of cities:

Atlanta, Halifax, Los Angeles, London, Cape Town, Mumbai, Albuquerque, New York City and many others.

For more information please visit independentpressaward.com. To view this year's list of IPA's Distinguished Favorites, please visit the website pages: <https://www.independentpressaward.com/2023df>

ABOUT GAIL REITANO

Gail Reitano grew up in the southern New Jersey Pine Barrens, and after graduating from Rutgers University, lived in New York and London before moving to the San Francisco Bay Area. Her fiction, memoir and personal essays have appeared in Glimmer Train, Catamaran Literary Reader, LitHub, Ovunque Siamo, Writing Women (UK), among others, and her work has been featured on public radio in the Bay Area.

www.gailreitano.com

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