



Kiss Carlo A NOVEL Adriana Trigiani

PERFORMED BY EDOARDO BALLERINI

From Adriana Trigiani, the beloved bestselling author of *The Shoemaker's Wife*, comes an exhilarating epic novel of love, loyalty, and creativity—the story of an Italian American family on the cusp of change.

It's 1949 and South Philadelphia bursts with opportunity during the postwar boom. The Palazzini Cab Company and Western Union Telegraph Office, owned and operated by Dominic Palazzini and his three sons, is flourishing; business is good and they're surrounded by sympathetic wives and daughters-in-law, with grandchildren on the way. But a decades-long feud that split Dominic, his brother, Mike, and their once-close families sets the stage for a rematch.

Amid the hoopla, the arrival of an urgent telegram from Italy upends the life of Nicky Castone (Dominic and his wife's orphaned nephew), who lives and works with his uncle Dom and his family. Nicky decides, as he nears thirty, that he wants more—more than just a job driving Car No. 4 and more than his longtime fiancée, Peachy DePino, a bookkeeper, can offer. When he admits to his fiancée that he's been secretly moonlighting at the local Shakespeare theater company, Nicky finds himself drawn to the stage, its colorful players, and to the determined Calla Borelli, who inherited the enterprise from her father. Nicky must choose the conventional life his family expects of him or chart a new course and risk losing everything he cherishes.

From the dreamy mountaintop village of Roseto Valfortore in Italy to the vibrant streets of South Philly, to the close-knit enclave of Roseto, Pennsylvania, to New York City during the birth of the golden age of television, *Kiss Carlo* is a powerful, intergenerational story that celebrates the ties that bind and staying true to oneself when all hope seems lost.

Told against the backdrop of some of Shakespeare's greatest comedies, this novel brims with romance as long-buried secrets are revealed, mistaken identities are unmasked, scores are settled, broken hearts are mended, and true love reigns. Adriana Trigiani's consummate storytelling skill and her trademark wit, along with a dazzling cast of characters, will enthrall listeners. Once again, the author has returned to her own family garden to create an unforgettable feast. *Kiss Carlo* is a jubilee, resplendent with hope, love, and the abiding power of *la famiglia*.

Adriana Trigiani is the bestselling author of seventeen books, which have been published in thirty-six countries around the world. She is a playwright, television writer/producer, and filmmaker. She wrote and directed the film version of her novel, which was shot entirely on location in her Virginia hometown. She is cofounder of the Origin Project, an in-school writing program that serves more than one thousand students in Appalachia. She lives in Greenwich Village with her family.

 Harper Audio

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