

Ian Williams

RIPRODUZIONE

«Innovativo, intelligente,
divertente, gioioso, poetico»
ALEKSANDAR HEMON

ROMANZO



THE VERDICT IS IN: READERS IN ITALY LOVE IAN WILLIAMS' NOVEL, *REPRODUCTION*

“In Williams' book, human reproduction becomes the container of numerous themes: the female body (in its declinations of race and class), parenthood (rejected, sought after, and suffered), and the family (natural, acquired or chosen)... The absence of punctuation in the dialogue and the mixture of it with the thoughts – interrupted, resumed, and misaligned – of the characters open a direct and particularly successful line of communication with the reader's head.” — *La Repubblica*

“He has no doubts, Vittorio Graziani, our trusted bookseller. You ask him what are the books to give away at Christmas and he replies: ‘The book to give this year for me is only one. The number 1. *Reproduction* by Ian Williams, published by Keller Edizioni.’” — *Amica*

“*Reproduction* by Ian Williams is a joyful and poetic novel, a reflection on blood ties, on the evolution of the concept of family, on the comparison between different cultures and on the delicate balance between life and death.” — *Grazia*

“There is an entire modern Canadian literature that fortunately arrives in Italy and shows what is possible with words.... In this brainy structure, Williams puts all his ability to experiment by generating a novel that reproduces itself, in a complicated yet brilliant metaphor of the process of forming a family, the center of the analysis contained in “*Reproduction*”: how it is formed, how it crumbles before it is even born, how it survives or reforms out of necessity.”

— *L'Indipendente*

“Other unfortunate couplings follow, which bring back to the fundamental question around which the whole novel revolves with irony: perhaps there would be so many fewer problems in the world if you paid more attention to who you mate with. There is even the hypothesis that some people would do better not to reproduce themselves, given that the result of the marriage between mismatched partners is often the proliferation of unfortunate lives, a drama that tends to perpetuate itself in subsequent generations, which continue to give birth to problematic outsiders: all perfect subjects for a debut novel.” — *Piccolo*

One of “30 books to give away this Christmas.” — *Vanity Fair, Italy*

“Captivating.... The consequences of procreation between unsuited partners—a lifetime of misery and the likelihood of subsequent generations repeating the same mistakes—are explored with subtlety and wit over the novel's four decades.... There's a fluidity and zest to Williams's insightful writing, underpinned by numerous experiments with form and style: a flow-chart illustrating a character's thought process; absent-minded asides embedded in a smaller font within sentences; and short paragraphs, sometimes just a couple of lines, that read as distilled prose poems.... Williams has a penchant for juggling multiple perspectives.... A finely balanced novel.”

— *Internazionale* (Italian review translated from The Guardian)