



Rancid Pansies

By James Hamilton-Paterson

Europa Editions, United States, 2008. Paperback. Book Condition: New. New.. 208 x 135 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Book three in the ?Gerald Samper? series (Cooking with Fernet Branca, Amazing Disgrace) When we last saw our hero he had taken to his bed in England, his beloved home in Tuscany having inexplicably capsized into a ravine. As Rancid Pansies opens, Samper is recuperating in Sussex at the home of the famous conductor Max Christ when he learns that film rights to his book on Millie Cleat?the one-armed yachtswoman whose inadvertent hari-kari, televised on Christmas day, gave his book an enormous boost?have been sold. This windfall is sufficient to finance a return to Italy and provide the time to indulge a long suppressed aspiration: writing the libretto for an opera (if only he can find a suitable subject). Before departing, the ever-gracious Gerald insists on preparing a farewell dinner for Max, his family and friends. The meal of liver smoothies and field mouse vol-au-vent is a memory-maker?and the assembled company s gag reflex is one of heroic proportions. Back in Italy, Gerald discovers that an offhand remark he had made while surveying the wreckage of his house, claiming he...



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