

Augustus (Ritratti) (Italian Edition)

John Buchan

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Nel racconto dello scozzese John Buchan, straordinario ibrido di politico aristocratico e popolarissimo scrittore, Ottaviano Augusto è soprattutto l'eroe dell'idea imperiale. La biografia si concentra sul passaggio dalla Repubblica all'Impero, quegli anni di scontro feroce che vedono emergere il genio politico del pronipote di Giulio Cesare. Magistrale nel fondere la ricostruzione degli eventi e dei caratteri con l'analisi storica, la narrazione dipana pazientemente l'intricata matassa delle lotte che dilaniavano Roma. Questo lo sfondo sul quale Ottaviano impara le arti della guerra e del compromesso, fino al gennaio del 24 a.C., quando ottiene il titolo di Augusto e segna una svolta decisiva nella storia dell'Occidente. Lo stratega lascia allora il posto al riformatore rigoroso, all'interprete acuto degli equilibri mondiali e al protettore delle arti. Per Augusto, sensibile nella scelta dei suoi collaboratori e ambizioso portatore di pace, Buchan non nasconde la propria ammirazione. Eppure il suo libro – scritto nel 1937, quando l'autore era governatore del Canada – ci consegna un ritratto sfaccettato del primo imperatore e, insieme, un'attenta e modernissima riflessione sulla gestione del potere.



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