

# To Give to the Light

by Michael DiMarco, M.A.



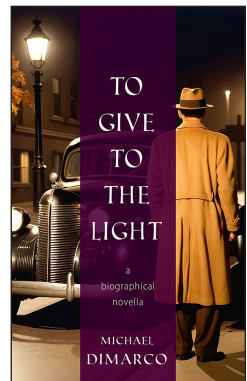
## FIVE STAR BOOK REVIEW

from **Readers' Favorite** 01/21/2025

*To Give to the Light* by Michael DiMarco is a personal story about family, traditions, challenges, traumas, adaptability, and love. The main “character”, Michele, the author’s grandfather, was born in the pastoral village of Montenero, Italy. However, the book lays the groundwork of the family roots by including the rustic upbringing of the author’s great-grandparents from the same town. Michele is one of many siblings in the DiMarco household. The story tells of how the young man’s father, Serafino, is worried about all his children growing up in the political chaos of the time. These concerns lead to four brothers emigrating from Italy to other countries in hopes of living safe and productive lives. Two went to Buenos Aires. Two went to America.

I was interested in *To Give to the Light* because my grandfather also immigrated to America from an Italian village, and I enjoy discovering family history. Through DiMarco’s graceful writing style, I learned much. The tales of war atrocities contrasted with funny family conversations and added to the ebb and flow of the story. I also learned about world history through this personal account via Michele’s grandson. What I appreciated most was the detailed accounts that named specific places in Erie Pennsylvania. Through these details, I felt that the account was real. I felt like I was there and witnessed the elation on Michele’s face when his brother Pasquale met him at the train station in his Model T Ford!

Although this is not a long book, it is long on lives lived to the fullest. *To Give to the Light* is the life story of one immigrant who came to a new land. However, in another way, the telling of Michele’s journey brings to light the stories of every immigrant who came to America and those who continue to come.



[www.viamediapublishing.com](http://www.viamediapublishing.com) • [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)