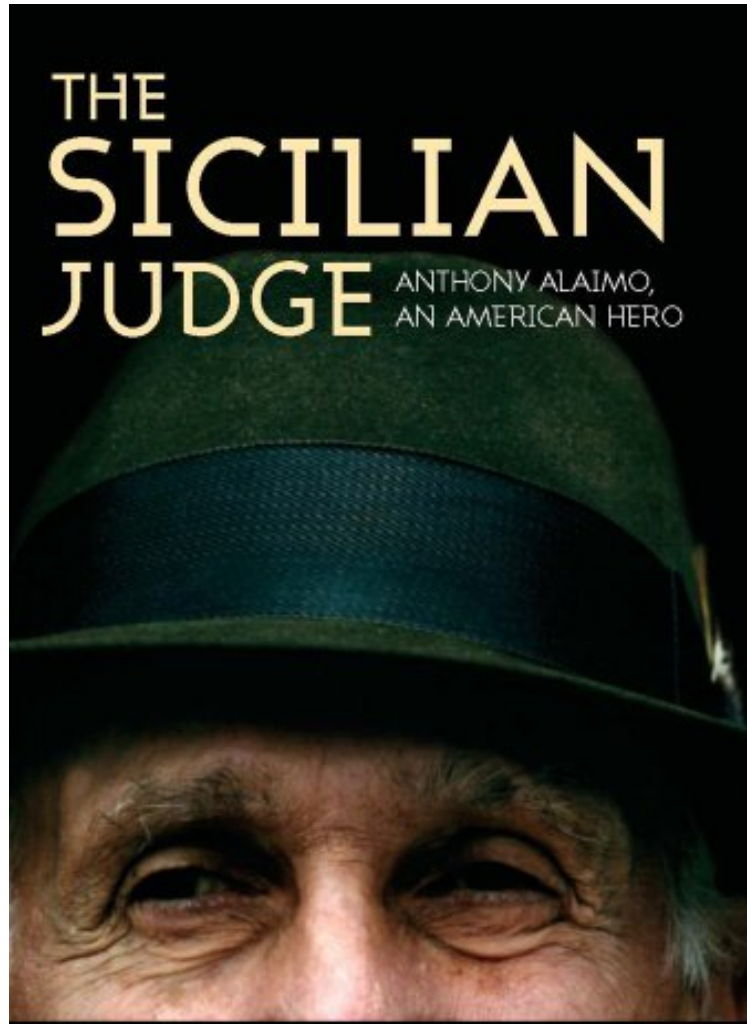


(Download ebook) The Sicilian Judge: Anthony Alaimo, an American Hero

## The Sicilian Judge: Anthony Alaimo, an American Hero

*Vincent Coppola*

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**Vincent Coppola : The Sicilian Judge: Anthony Alaimo, an American Hero** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Sicilian Judge: Anthony Alaimo, an American Hero:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Second Half ComebackBy TadThe subject himself is great - indeed, bigger than life. And once I got to page 103, I was able to read about the man I know and love. I was stunned at the book's structure, though. Who allowed the book to begin with all the photographs? It's as if the editors didn't trust the writer to rivet his audience. And, well, he didn't at first. Coppola surprisingly wrote the first hundred pages as if he were under contract to the family to record an otherwise undistinguished man's steps through life (POW

notwithstanding.) The second half of the book went like I expected the erudite and investigative Newsweek reporter I admire. 14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. An extraordinary life! By D. Dodd This book will appeal to many kinds of readers. It has everything - history, adventure, and biography. I began thumbing through it expecting to set it aside and read the whole book in an afternoon. What a life. And what determination. The first half of the book is excellent - it covers Judge Alaimo's WWII experience as pilot and German POW (he was involved in some of the real life events which were later used in the movie "The Great Escape"). It took guts and amazing luck for a skinny, half-starved, young guy in ragged clothing to escape the Germans and make his way to Italy and Switzerland. After returning home and completing law school, he applied the same hard work and determination to his legal career. The latter half of the book will be of great interest to legal history and civil rights buffs. However, it's general enough that all readers should enjoy it and it certainly covers a tremendously important time in our history. But primarily, this book is about character, determination, love of country, love of family, hard work...in short, all the values we look for in a real hero. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Leaves you with no excuses By Paul Great story about the abilities of America. Lots of hard work and a tenacious attitude is what pushed Judge Alaimo to the top of his calling. This is a great story of a true war hero, and hero on the Bench. I would recommend this book,

Judge Anthony Alaimo's life is a metaphor for quintessential American values: courage, hard work, patriotism, compassion. This biography does not dwell in the realm of metaphorical; it plunges us into the day-to-day life of an immigrant family struggling in the depths of the Depression to become Americans, of an immigrant son putting his every dream on hold to pursue a greater passion: love of country. It carries us into the madness of air warfare, the horror of a screaming crash into the frigid North Sea, the terrible realization and burden of living with the knowledge that you survived when everyone else died. The son of illiterate, but deeply religious Sicilian immigrants, US District Court Judge Anthony Alaimo shined shoes and cut hair in Jamestown, New York, to pay for his college education. (He was the Golden Gloves boxer attending the quiet Methodist College.) As a POW, he participated in the world-famous Great Escape, and later broke out on his own, making his way through German lines into Switzerland. A mother's love, religious faith, and ferocious patriotism transform an impoverished immigrant boy into one of the Greatest Generation heroes. This book takes us inside the incandescent life and tumultuous times of Judge Anthony Alaimo, WWII bomber pilot, POW, and indomitable escape artist, whose fidelity to the law is equaled by his compassion and outrage at injustice.

What makes Alaimo's story so poignant is that like most other World War II veterans, he didn't seek recognition or praise for his exploits during the war...but went home, went to college, then law school and pursued a career in civilian life which took him to the top of his profession...For those who love stories about people who have really lived their lives...this is a must read. --Historian Rolland Kidder, author of *A Hometown Went to War* This excellent biography records the life and times of one of our country's true heroes, both in war and peace. --Former US Attorney General Griffin B. Bell He lives his life the way we all wish we had the courage to live ours. --US District Court Judge Lisa Godbey Wood About the Author Vincent Coppola is a former Newsweek correspondent and award-winning writer whose work has appeared in *Esquire*, *Talk*, *Men's Journal*, *Rolling Stone*, *Worth*, *Atlanta*, *Georgia Trend*, and other publications. He is the author of *Uneasy Warriors: The Perilous Journey of the Green Berets* and *Dragons of God: A Journey through Far Right America*. A graduate of the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, Coppola served as a visiting instructor in journalism and creative writing at Emory University. He lives in Atlanta.