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Sommario/riassunto In this account of a social experiment gone awry, Israel Drori exposes a

little-known and recent phenomenon: the importation of foreign workers from Third World economies to Israel. Focusing on Romanian, Thai, and Filipina migrants brought to Israel for specified periods of employment, Drori examines the effect of migrants on Israeli society, particularly the issue of national identity. What began as a political corrective—avoiding the danger of hiring Palestinians to do work that Jewish Israelis would not—has developed into a social and economic problem the state does not know how to handle. In addition to

examining the work experiences and social lives of these workers, Drori

also situates the Israeli case within a global context, where many

affluent nations have significant populations of marginalized, undocumented workers.