

THE LOVERS

Thus begins the tale of our two young lovers in fair Firenze of years long passed. It begins with innocently lifted eyelids, shy stolen glances and just a hint of a smile at the corners of hopeful lips. As time passes, your anxious fingertips search for their counterparts, lightly touching one another, your hearts fluttering.

Finding yourselves alone a fortnight later, bereft from social constraints, your quick embrace becomes the passionate intertwining of your youthful arms and legs. Tender words spill from gentle, trusting lips. Again, conspiring to find privacy, your emotions, quite new and raw, take your intertwined limbs, no longer clothed, to a sweet, as yet unknown, frantic making of love.

How then as the hands of the clock turn and turn, do these innocent glances give way to angry stares and glares, those smiles that knew no guile, become cruel sneers? How then turned the warmth of touch, the flame of an embrace, the fire of lust and fulfillment into cold, angry betrayal and loathing?

Is there no hope of atonement for you; our once young lovers, now standing at the crossroads of heaven and hell? You must to hell straightaway go! Your only chance of cleansing your hearts and entering paradise is to follow the harrowing journey through Dante's nine circles of sin where you will painfully search your souls.

To Hell with you!

The consummation of two loving mates,
 A fertilized egg will create,
 But yours stands in LIMBO in a garden,

To the Palazzo Pitti you should be departing,

Rather than see an artistic masterpiece,

It's to the back gardens that you're released,

A taxi is a quick way to go,

To this prebaked packaged pizza logo,

Pass the obelisk and Neptune on your left,

And then to the masked clearing up the steps,

Down the corridor of statues then heading down,

At the fourth trellised entrance look around,
To a direction opposite bear,
Of the hand of the man that is raised there,
A walk then of a few paces,
Will show the egg in all its graces.

Via Santa Margarita 1 is all devotion,
To Dante's center of great emotion,
There the girl whose image you're seekin',
In the Inferno stands as his beacon,
Dante himself was a victim of LUST,
Unconsummated, but much discussed,
Meridiana takes you east across the old bridge in a northeasterly way,
Up Via Por Santa Maria/Calimala to Orsanmichele you now stray,
Then a right down Allighieri,
Love is lost if you tarry.

3. At a museum there's love in motion,
Where innocence was for a moment a notion,
But all sinners bite from the forbidden fruit,
And then remain morally destitute.
A couple was instructed to a tee,
About not eating an apple from the knowledge tree
They nonetheless committed TREACHERY,
By defying God's foremost decree.

4. Casanova was the seducer who set the standard, Of how to allure, catch and philander, A Venetia charlatan known for his escapades, The use of FRAUD was his stock in trade, Alcohol was a weapon used frequently, To loosen up his quarry and make it a fait accomplit, In Greve of Chianti he would close in for the kill, By plying women with drink and skill, Buy an open card from Master Vlad, To the five stations you too can be a cad, With flirtation, flattery and gifts be bold, But remember at least to press and hold.

5. Paolo and Francesca were the ill-fated lovers of an affair,
Who like Guinivere and Lancelot were headed for despair,
But unlike the tales of King Arthur's Court,
It was homicide to which her husband did resort,
Though Giancotto awaits penance in Circle Nine,
The two lovers were destined to flow about on a tailwind so undevine,
Their story was flouted by an anti-Dantescan scribe,
Who on page 245 rebelled with a diatribe,
For his HERESY he was burned to death in 1327,
To R. Bonci read *his* quote to get to Heaven,
Now then Siena stands proudly for your conquest

It's time to venture the opposite of northwest,

Do not take the SR 22,

You will circle the town 'til you're blue,

Continue on SS674,

And come around to the back door,

By now Hotel Athena should be a good guess,

Place it now in your GPS,

Massetana to Mascagni is your route,

Careful now on those roundabouts,

After Porta San Marco take an immediate left,

With Via Nuovo Asila don't be bereft,

In three hundred meters find you parking space,

And to the front of the hotel you should soon pace,

Walk right on and up Mascagni to sew your fate,

At present your bags in the car can wait.

We read of Lancelot, of love constrained.

Love that is quickly caught with the gentle heart, filled him with my fair form, Now lost to me, and the nature of that love still afflicts me.

HOTLINE:

MARC (310) 779-3057 JEFF (512) 680-4413 MICHELE (707) 318-6468



DAY TWO

6. Back up Mascagni you start your morn, Be upbeat and brave and not forlorn, Cleopatra wasn't known as much for her nose, As she was for her underclothes, Nothing set Anthony on fire more, Than lingerie with which he was quick to score, But WRATH drove him to rape and pillage, When she wouldn't put out in Siena's village, When deprived for days of intimacy, His anger was fueled by jealousy, At his hot-blooded helm Egypt would be soon squandered, With foreplay Cleo can soon be re-conquered, Three statues model her negligeé,
Your bag's puzzle will direct your next foray,
Another black one may also hang,
To help you find your yin's yang,
On that street between Banchi di Sotto,
And Via Calzoleria., over (*ital.*) would be perfetto.

7. Medea helped Jason find the golden fleece,
But he paid her back for being obese,
By leaving her for the king's daughter,
His estranged wife was an evil plotter,
And GLUTTONY was her just revenge,
By going on an eating binge,
And cooking her children for desert,
To an ice cream parlor you must revert,
Just read to Gianfranco their final plea,
And a gourmand you'll no longer be.

PLEA: Our pain will lessen if you eat us.

Into that thick and murky atmosphere, fear gathered in me as my error fled-For as Montereggione's wall appear, towers that crown its circles, here arrayed all around the bank encompassing the pit...stood horrible giants...

8. Petruchio of The Taming of the Shrew,
Set upon his wife Katherine to subdue,
But the real motive in this lover's gambit,
Is found within this town's fortified ambit,
To the Camera della Podesta in a public palace,
In a room of coupling where there's no malice,
There the elements of GREED you must erase,
In this quiet romantic living space,
Even a hot tub's lure can enrich,
Any true romantic niche
Just up a flight from a tower's stairs,
Across from a famous hall that might give you airs.

9. Romeo and Juliet,

Were start crossed lovers from different sects, Their families were sworn enemies for centuries, But their love was stronger than the Veronese, VIOLENCE upon themselves was soon applied, In the form of dramatic suicide, But Dido of the Aeneid's fame, Had a less contrived end to her shame, She impaled herself upon a pyre, Smitten by her love's desire, Anna Karenina was in so much pain, That she threw herself under a train, And countless others from points quite steep, Have embarked on the irrevocable lover's leap, One couple here is ready to jump, With a panoramic view from a rocky stump, Folks have been doing it since 1353, Villa della Rocca is your sortie.

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LITTLE CLUES

1. Boboli Egg

Beatrice was Dante's greatest love, She talks to Dante from above, She died as a youthful memory, The writer's infatuation made her a legacy, On the first floor of his old house, A corner is devoted to his would-be spouse, Where she's described as an inspired muse, Absolution would be good news.



2. Casa di Dante Beatrice room

At the Bargello at Via Proconsolo 4
Bronze and marble figures that dance upon the ground floor,
Not in the courtyard of the woman wheel,
But towards the front where sinners steal,
With Bandinelli soon check in,
To keep them from the Original Sin.



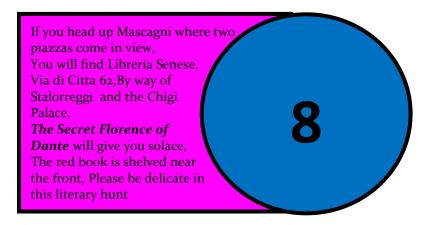
3. In Adam and Eve

If you head up Mascagni where two piazzas come in view,
You will find Libreria Senese, Via di Citta 62,By way of Stalorreggi and the Chigi palace
The Secret Florence of Dante will give you solace,The red book is shelved near the front,Please be delicate in this literary hunt

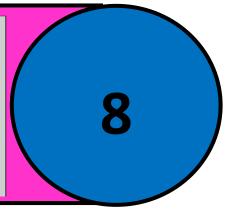
4. In Falorni Grappa box



The Falorni wine shop at Piazza Delle Cantine 6, Is the place to learn Casanova's politics,, With Vernaccia, Chianti, Petra, Santo,, and Grappa, Any woman will soon be calling you Papa! It is only when you finish the route, That a search around will leave no doubt. There's no way to use deceit Paradiso will need the receipt.



If you head up Mascagni where two piazzas come in view, You will find Libreria Senese, Via di Citta 62, By way of Stalorreggi and the Chigi Palace, *The Secret Florence of Dante* will give you solace, The red book is shelved near the front, Please be delicate in your hunt.



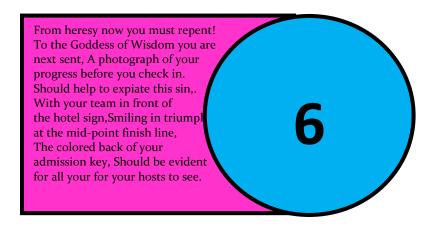
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Palace, The Secret Florence of Dante will give you solace, The red book is shelved near the front, Please be delicate in your hunt.

5. In book

From heresy now you must repent!

To the Goddess of Wisdom you are next sent,
A photograph of your progress before you check in,
Should help to expiate this sin,
With your team in front of the hotel sign,
Smiling in triumph at the mid-point finish line,
The colored back of your admission key,
Should be evident for all your hosts to see.



6. In mannequin

Along the wall near where Templars fare,

Within a picturesque castle square,

A Piazza Roma 11 il posto sara

ben trovato,

Dove devi chiedere un gelato.



7. In ice cream with shade

40 minutes up to San Gimignano town,
With Racordo Autostrada Firenze you'll find new ground
To P-3, park and elevate up the wall,
To the map place labelled 1 is Dante's hall.



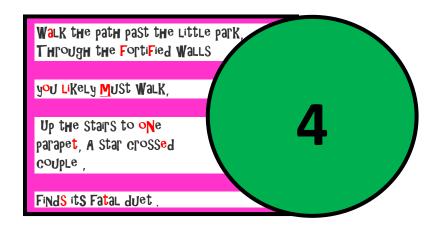
8. In niche of Camera Della Podesta

Walk the path past the little park,

THROUGH the FortiFied Walls you likely Must Walk,

Up the Stairs to oNe parapet,

A Star crossEd couple Finds its FaTAL duet.



ADMIT ONE TEAM

9. On Montestaffoli parapet

With your circles conquered and sins atoned,

The Gates of Paradise is your last milestone,

"Through a round aperture you shall soon all share,

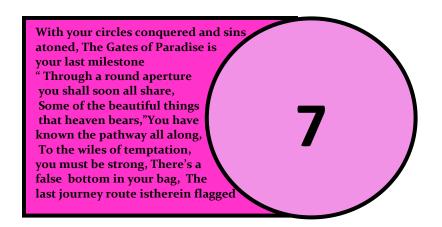
Some of the beautiful things that heaven bears,"

You have known the pathway all along,

To the wiles of temptation, you must be strong,

There's a false bottom in your bag,

The last journey route is therein flagged.



With your circles conquered and sins atoned, The Gates of Paradise is your last milestone
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IN BAG: Puzzle with via Banchi di Sopra on back

Map of Siena Map of SG Compact Book

THE WAY TO PARADISE

Villa di Ulignano Localita' Ulignano 56048 Volterra (Pisa) N 43. 24.448 E 010. 51.592

The Villa is in the locality of Ulignano, town of Volterra, in the Province of Pisa Not to be confused to the town of Ulignano to the north of San Gimignano (Province of Siena)

From San Gimignano estimated time 25 minutes • Drive around San Gimignano to the north-end, following signs for GAMBASSI on the SP 69 • At the roundabout keep on following direction GAMBASSI • Go along this road till the junction for VOLTERRA on the SP 62 and take it • Go along this road (the SP 62 will become SP 53) till Km 6 of the SP 53 where you will find a farm on your left and a big dirt country road on your right with cypresses with indicated Villa di Ulignano white sign • Once on the unpaved road follow yellow signs for Villa di Ulignano, pass Escaia and Cafaggiolo before finding the driveway of the Villa on your left

"Over" Banchi di Sopra, 16, 53100 Siena SI, Italy