



THE ARTIST

With every delicate brush, with each determined chip, with florid, deliberate strokes, the suffering Italian Artist shares the sum of their desperate life's experience to shape, to mold, to inspire the audience of their burgeoning craft. The painter's canvas captures the vivid, haunting scenes of his imagination, recorded for eternity. The sculptor carves the ragged, broken boulder of mother earth herself, revealing the smooth, sinuous shape the model coaxes from his frantic mind. The author pens the staccato scenes that race through his reeling reminiscence. To share the selfless passion that drives their art, so

others may feel that same joy, would seem a wondrous virtue. But beneath that tempting, enchanting veneer, what horrific, haunting circle of hell did truly inspire the Artist's hand? Did Lust not guide you in rendering the maiden's sensuous form? Did Gluttony and Fraud not lead you to shamelessly flatter the patrons of your craft, in word and deed, securing your place at their sumptuous feasts? Did Anger not fuel the venomous tales so skillfully scribed and shared with all to read? Was Greed for lavish praise of your own mastery of your craft any part of your artistic drive? And though a single circle's sin has gained you entry to join this arduous trek, the challenge of nine daunting circles of hell you must traverse to enter the joyous Paradiso.

1. Though Macchiavelli was profound,
His criticisms were often so hell-bound,
A work like *The Prince* ruffled noble feathers,
To his reputation **HERESY's** accusation was soon tethered,
Of the acerbic comments of his quill,
Even the Pope was quick to have his fill,
To **Signum** now repudiate,
The dicta of his final debate,
At Borgo de Greci 40 R,
Your calligraphy's color will get you far.

Natasha stands on call at the counter,
If your efforts start to founder.

2. If you want to be in the House of God,

You had better clean up some of the rampant **FRAUD**,

That has so pervaded the world of Art,

That would give even Botticelli a start,

It turns out his birth of the second planet from the sun,

Is a forgery that duped everyone,

To rid yourself of conscience's pangs,

Find the room where it hangs.

3. In his gaze the Arno flows,

The masterwork of Michelangelo,

But a copy for the view,

Not the original's current lieu,

Goliath's slayer stands proud,

Upon a square for the touring crowd,

Of themes of **VIOLENCE** you must take stock,

Even if the weapon is only a rock.

4. It is time to Greve for one more sin,
In the bosom of the **LUST** you've often been,
The road to Chianti is well driven,
But of perversion you must be ridden,
A central piazza is the game,
Where Il Palazzo Communale reigns the same,
Verrazano is a peeping tom,
What's he looking at is an "homme."

5. **WRATH** should be your middle name,
An underground wine chamber still fans the flames,
It seems when criticisms went against the flow,
A short-fuse accompanied your bruised ego,
Now 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,
Take a right on and up Mascagni to sew your fate,
At present your bags in the car can wait.

TESTIMONY:

*Within the flames are spirits, each one here,
Enfolds himself in what burns him.*

HOTLINE:

MARC (310) 779-3057

JEFF (512) 680-4413

MICHELE (707) 318-6468



DAY TWO

6. You used to poach a wishing well,
So much at Palazzo Chigi-Saracini you got expelled,
You were not immune from the sin of **GREED**,
Even when you were not in need,
Back up Mascagni you start your morn,
Be upbeat and brave and not forlorn
Mascagni continues as Staloreggi,
If things are confusing don't get edgy,
Through two piazzas onto Via de Citta 89
To the Palazzo's entrance you are consigned,

Where you should now give alms to the poor,
Behind the cistern is your circle's door.

7. Dante gave many artists a helpful backdoor,
By leaving them banner-less on Acheron's shore,
For all the unsworn who ambled about,
A baptism was certain to remove the doubt,
To eliminate LIMBO from your list,
It's to the Duomo of Siena that we insist,
Midway down the nave should be,
A chapel meant for you to see.

You spirits that have come to view the dishonorable mangling that has torn leaves from me, gather them round the foot of this sad tree. I was of Florence, that city which changed Mars, its patron, for St. John the Baptist.

8. San Gimignano with its towers,
Fortifies itself from foreign powers,
There you should park outside the walls,
At P3 you can avoid the squalls,
And elevate up to the walking path,
To GLUTTONY's basket, do the math,
For your shade you'll have a gift,

Don't let other bistros send you adrift,
For thirst's cracking agonies,
Find the thing that you must seize,
And recite, if you please;

The name I took among you citizens was Ciacco: the sin of gluttony brought me here. You see me soak to ruin in battering rain-but not alone for all those around me share the same penalty for the same transgression as mine.

9. In the Medici's midst **TREACHERY** made her case,
Sponsored artists could be replaced,
Painters stabbed each other in the back,
And many an artist was an egomaniac,
Plagiarism in literature was all too real,
And bribes and shortcuts were quite the deal,
False rumors destroyed reputations,
All for the prized royal court's invitation,
The fight's at an alley's end not far away,
Decode the locale known as _____

____ _
____ _

To get back from the world form there, my guide and I went into that hidden tunnel.

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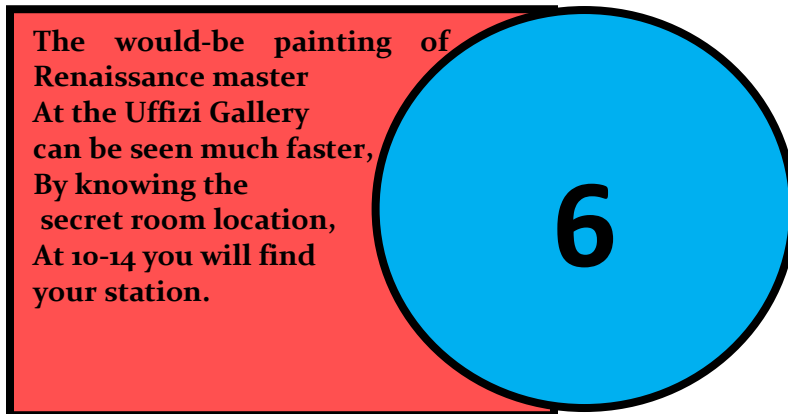
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Little Clues

1. At Signum, Natasha, Borgo de Greci 40 R, calligraphy box

The would-be painting of this Renaissance master
At the Uffizi Gallery can be seen much faster,
By knowing the secret room location,
At 10-14 you will find your station.



2. In Uffizi cardholder in room 10-14 Birth of Venus

It's time to drive on out of town,
Across the Arno you're *Piazzale* bound,
The Philistines loss in this famous duel,
The nymphs at the base provide the fuel.

**It's time to drive on out of
town,
Across the Arno
you're *Piazzale* bound,
The Philistines loss in
this famous duel,
The nymphs at the base
provide the fuel.**



8

3. At base of David

**A naked torso beams proudly where,
His privates are exposed upon a square,
If you want to avoid hotline calls,
You better damn well have the balls.**

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proudly where,
His privates are
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If you want to avoid
hotline calls,
You better damn well
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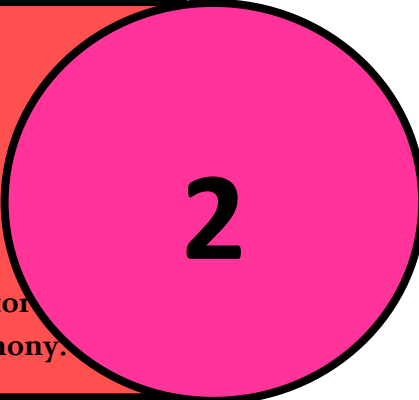


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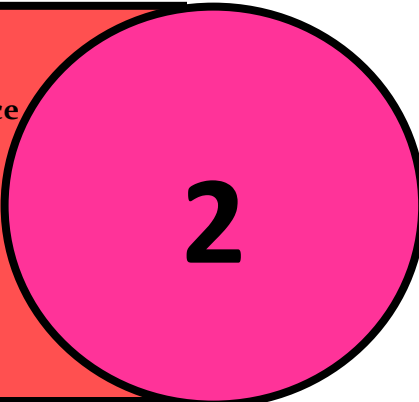
4. At torso in Greve

**32-36 Piazza del Campo promises penance,
At Alla Speranza or Bar Casato you'll find remembrance,
For a drink to quell the acrimony,
To Pedro, Luigi or Salvatore give the indicated testimony.**

**2-36 Piazza del Campo
promises penance,
At Alla Speranza or Bar
Casato you'll find
remembrance,
For a drink to quell
the acrimony,
To Pedro, Luigi or Salvatore
give the indicated testimony.**



**Gran Caffè Sienna on Il
Campo promises penance
In brandy you'll find
remembrance,
For a drink to quell
the acrimony,
To Giovanni give the
indicated testimony.**



or

Gran Caffe Sienna on Il
Campo promises penance
In brandy you'll find
remembrance,
For a drink to quell
the acrimony,
To Giovanni give the
indicated testimony.

5. In Flambe drink at Café Nannini/Giovanne's Bar

From anger 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.

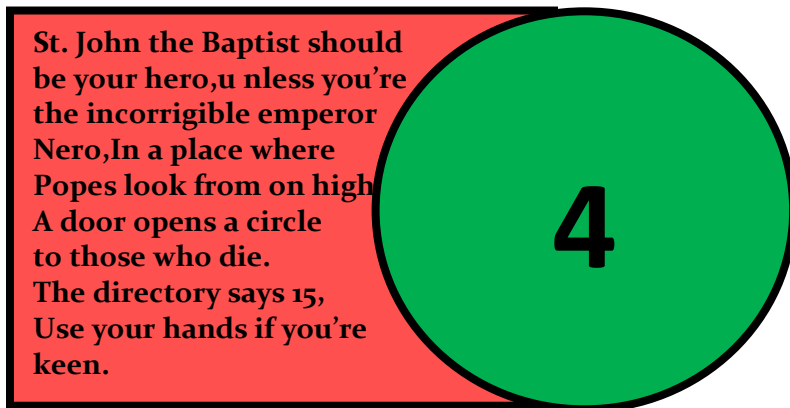
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5

6. Wishing well

St. John the Baptist should be your hero,
Unless you're the incorrigible emperor Nero,
In a place where Popes look from on high,
A door opens a circle to those who die.
The directory says 15,
Use your hands if you're keen.



7. St. John the Baptist Door in Duomo/Siena

Onward ho, my Heaven- bent,
To a truffle shop you are now sent,
Your baptism freed you from the question,
But faith itself is not all redemption,
Angelica helms the next location,
To get the shade practice your vocation,
At 14 San Mateo recite the verse,
Or be left Dante accursed.

Onward ho,my heaven-bent,To a
truffle shop you are now sent,
Your baptism freed you from
the question,
But faith itself is not all
redemption,Angelica may
helm the next location,
To get the shade
practice your vocation,At
14 San Mateo recite the verse,
Or be left Dante accursed.

1

8. Under truffles at 14 San Mateo

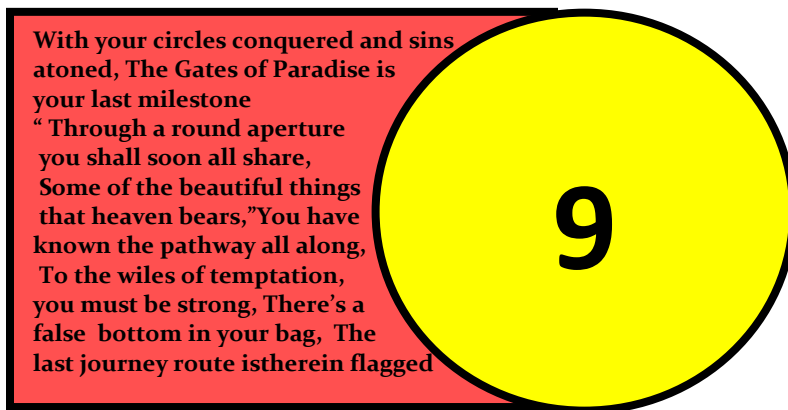
If in the key of V=E,
E R L X U X M N R K X W P R
will set you free,
By using the cipher in your bag,
To a shielded soldier you shall not lag.

If in the key of V=E,
E R L X U X M N R K X W P R
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3

9. Behind shield

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.



DEVICES/IN BAG:

Truffles at clue site
Cipher
Map of San Gimignano
Venus box

Puzzle answers:
(Vicolo Del Bonghi)

THE WAY TO PARADISE

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

The Villa is in the locality of Ullignano, town of Volterra, in the Province of Pisa Not to be confused to the town of Ullignano 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 Ullignano white sign • Once on the unpaved road follow yellow signs for Villa di Ullignano, pass Escaia and Cafaggiolo before finding the driveway of the Villa on your left

