

FICTIONAL WORKS THAT DEAL WITH VENICE

This is a selected list of fictional works that relate to Venice. A more complete list would include over 100.

- 1- The Aspern Papers by Henry James**
- 2- Merchant of Venice by William Shakespeare**
- 3- The Venetian Bargain by Marina Fiorato**
- 4- Death in Venice by Thomas Mann**
- 5- Don't Look Now by Daphne du Maurier**
- 6- Across the River and into the Trees by Earnest Hemingway**
- 7- In the Company of the Courtesan by Sarah Dunant**
- 8- The City of Falling Angels by John Berendt**
- 9- The Glassblower of Murano by Marina Fiorato**
- 10-The Rossetti Letter by Christi Philips**
- 11-The Four Seasons: A novel of Forbidden Love in the 18th Century by Andrea di Robilant**
- 12- Vivaldi's Virgins by Barbara Quick**
- 13- Midwife of Venice by Roberta Rich**
- 14- Othello by William Shakespeare**
- 15- Volpone, the play, by Ben Johnson**
- 16- The Venetian Mask Rosalind Laker**
- 17- The Wings of the Dove by Henry James**
- 18- Watermark by Joseph Brodsky**
- 19- The Haunted Hotel by Wilkie Collins**
- 20- Dead Lagoon by Michael Dibdin**
- 21- Invisible Cities by Italo Calvino**

22- Death at La Fenice by Donna Leon. She has written 25 mysteries that deal with Venice and which feature the Venetian inspector, Commissario Guido Brunetti. Her most recent one, *The Waters of Eternal Youth*, was just published. There is another book that I am not familiar with; it is called Brunetti's Venice by Toni Sepeda. You could connect it to Leon's fiction.

ARCHITECTURAL DEFINITIONS

For pictorial references go to: Architectural Terms (Google) and then go to: Architectural Terminology. The site is very complete with pictorial examples and I have only selected some of the terms.

1-Arcade: a series of arches supported on piers or columns. A “blind arcade” is a row of arches applied to a wall as an ornamental feature.

2-Arch: A structural device, curved in shape, to span an opening by means of wedge-shaped bricks or stones that support each other by exerting mutual pressure and that are buttressed at the sides.

3- Architrave: A square beam that is the lowest of the three horizontal components of a Classical entablature.

4- Barrel Vault: A half-cylindrical vault, semicircular or pointed in cross section; also called tunnel vault

5- Bay: A vertical compartment of a building in which such compartments are repeated; each bay might

- be defined by columns, piers, windows or vaulting units.
- 6- **Buttress:** A projecting mass of masonry serving to provide additional strength for the wall as it resists the lateral thrust exerted by an arch or vault.
 - 7- **Capital:** The uppermost part of a column.
 - 8- **Column:** A vertical, usually cylindrical, support, commonly consisting of a base, shaft and capital
 - 9- **Cornice:** The uppermost, projecting portion of an entablature.
 - 10- **Dome:** A curved vault that is erected on a circular base and that is semicircular, pointed, or bulbous in section. If raised over a square or polygonal base, pendentives must be inserted at the corners of the base to transform it into a near circle.
 - 11- **Entablature:** the upper part of a classical order comprising an architrave, frieze and cornice.
 - 12- **Loggia:** An arcade supported by piers or columns, open on one side at least; either part of a building (as a porch) or a separate structure.
 - 13- **Oculus:** A round window.
 - 14- **Order:** A system for the forms and relationships in the column and entablature of classical architecture according to one of five modes: Doric, Ionic, Corinthian (developed by the Greeks) and Tuscan and Composite (developed by the Romans).
 - 15- **Palladian Motif/Serliana:** A triple opening formed by a central semicircular arch springing from the

entablature of narrower flanking square-headed bays, used by architect Andrea Palladio. Also known as a Serliana because it was first illustrated in the architecture treatise of 1537 by Sebastiano Serlio.

- 16- A parapet: A low wall for protection at the edge of a balcony, terrace, roof , bridge, etc.**
- 17-Pediment: A triangular space formed by the raking cornices (sloping sides) and horizontal cornice of a gabled temple; also above a door or window. If the apex or base is split, the pediment is described as broken.**
- 18- Pendentive: An inverted, concave, triangular piece of masonry serving as the transition from a square support system to the circular base of a dome.**
- 19- Pilaster: A column is flattened, rectangular shape, projecting slightly from the face of a wall.**
- 20- Portico: An open , colonnaded, roofed surface serving as a porch before the entrance of a building.**
- 21- Volute: Ornament in the form of a spiral scroll, and the principal feature of the Ionic capital.**

These are just some of the terms, so please go to the site to see all of the terms. Many relate to Gothic architecture while our focus is Renaissance.

