



The Gondola Maker

By Laura Morelli

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Shortlisted for the da Vinci Eye Prize

From the author of *Made in Italy* comes a tale of artisanal tradition and family bonds set in one of the world's most magnificent settings: Renaissance Venice. Venetian gondola-maker Luca Vianello considers his whole life arranged. His father charted a course for his eldest son from the day he was born, and Luca is positioned to inherit one of the city's most esteemed boatyards. But when Luca experiences an unexpected tragedy in the boatyard, he believes that his destiny lies elsewhere. Soon he finds himself drawn to restore an antique gondola with the dream of taking a girl for a ride.

The Gondola Maker brings the centuries-old art of gondola-making to life in the tale of a young man's complicated relationship with his master-craftsman father. Lovers of historical fiction will appreciate the authentic details of gondola craftsmanship, along with an intimate first-person narrative set against the richly textured backdrop of 16th-century Venice.

A Venetian page-turner

"I'm a big fan of Venice, so I appreciate Laura Morelli's special knowledge of the city, the period, and the process of gondola-making. An especially compelling story." --Frances Mayes, author of *Under the Tuscan Sun*

"Laura Morelli has done her research, or perhaps she was an Italian carpenter in another life. One can literally smell and feel the grain of finely turned wood in her hands." --Pamela Sheldon Johns, author of *Italian Food Artisans*

"Romance, intrigue, family loyalty, pride, and redemption set against the backdrop of Renaissance Italy." --Library of Clean Reads

"Beautiful, powerful evocation of the characters, the place, and the time. An elegant and thoroughly engaging narrative voice." --Mark Spencer, author of *Fiction Club: A Concise Guide to Writing Good Fiction*

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Editorial Review

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Sixteenth-century Venice is the star of Morelli's well-crafted historical novel about Luca Vianello, the eldest son of the city's most renowned gondola builder. ----Publisher's Weekly Starred Review

The heir to a gondola empire rejects his birthright but comes full circle in this fascinating glimpse into late-Renaissance Venice by art-historian-turned-novelist Morelli (*Made in Italy*). ----Kirkus Indie Book of the Month

The Gondola Maker is historical fiction at its best. ----Midwest Book Review From the Author

The story of *The Gondola Maker* germinated inside my head while I was busy researching another book called *Made in Italy*. The contemporary Italian artisans I interviewed, one after another, told me how important it was to them to pass on the torch of tradition to the next generation. I began to wonder what would happen if the successor were not able or willing to take on that duty. The characters of the gondola maker and his heirs began to take shape. From the Inside Flap

In 16th-century Venice, the heir to a family boatyard rejects his destiny but is drawn to restore an old gondola with the dream of taking a girl for a ride. Users Review

From reader reviews:

Angelina Rone:In this 21st millennium, people become competitive in every way. By being competitive currently, people have to do something to make them survive, being in the middle of the actual crowded place and notice by means of surrounding. One thing that oftentimes many people have underestimated the idea for a while is reading. Yes, by reading a publication your ability to survive boost then having chance to endure than other is high. For yourself who want to start reading a new book, we give you this specific *The Gondola Maker* book as nice and daily reading reserve. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

Jimmy Martinez:Reading a publication can be one of a lot of exercise that everyone in the world likes. Do you like reading book thus. There are a lot of reasons why people like it. First reading a e-book will give you a lot of new data. When you read a reserve you will get new information because book is one of several ways to share the information or perhaps their idea. Second, examining a book will make a person more imaginative. When you studying a book especially hype book the author will bring someone to imagine the story how the personas do it anything. Third, you can share your knowledge to other folks. When you read this *The Gondola Maker*, you may tell your family, friends and also soon about your reserve. Your knowledge can inspire average, make them reading a reserve.

Jeremy Bryant:A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation or go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity honestly, that is look different you can read some sort of book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a guide. The book *The Gondola Maker* it is very good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy often the e-book. You can more simply to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book features high quality.

Donna Solano:Reading a book to become new life style in this yr; every people loves to go through a book.

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