



Part I
Sandro
The Forsaken World

V.F. Porzio

"Like Botticelli, V. F. Porzio is an artist; he paints with words. From the moment I picked up Sandro, I was whisked away into a story of abandonment, deceit, religion, art and love during the Renaissance period. Though Sandro is fictional, I couldn't help but want to know more about the artist Botticelli and the Medici Family of Italy, once I finished the book.

V. F. Porzio's writing style kept me riveted and thirsting for more."

-Becky Bloomfield

"This book is a revealing look into an era with which few of us are familiar. The misuse of power by those who possess is not unknown in our time. The triumph of good over those who wield evil to serve their own ends is inevitable and at the same time satisfying. However, the tragedy inflicted on others by such malice is what compels the reader to continue. The result is a page turning frenzy to learn what becomes of the characters you grow to love."

-DeWitt Smith

"This is a great read, I literally couldn't put it down. I was so emotionally attached to the characters that I did not want the book to end. From beginning to end there was no shortage of story line or action.

I will definitely read any other book from the author."

-Justina Mantione



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"WOW! First time author? Quite impressive!!! I was enamored with the characters in this delightful story of one of the great Italian artists. Can't wait for Mr. Porzio's next novel."

- Miriam Saccomani

"I was given the manuscript from a friend and now I'm excited to see that the book is coming out. It's a great read and very descriptive. In the first 50 or so pages, I found all the details a bit much, but after that, I loved the book and understand why so much detail was given me. I felt like I was in Italy! Bravo... can't wait to see the movie!"

-Maria Schmidt

"Truly captivating! The author cleverly turns bits of historical facts into a compelling fictional story, which transports you back to the heart of the Italian Renaissance. Suspense driven, the book takes the reader on an emotional ride that one doesn't want to end."

-Stephen Parciapse



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"Kudos to the author! I loved the way his story is woven around the truth on how the church had such a hold over the people of the times. Sandro, tells the story of the passion that the master artists had for their art and how they struggled for it.

The book gives us a great love story that has endured even after death. I LOVED it !!!"

-Vera Singer

"I absolutely enjoyed the development of Mr. Porzio's characters. As you gradually got to know them, you are drawn into their lives, loves and their hates. You become so much a part of their lives that you couldn't put the book down, anxious to learn what happens next to them. Despite the chaos and violence of their day, the book gives us true heroes ...one's who's love overcame any obstacle in their way. Thank you V. F. Porzio for this gem!"

-Maria Foss

"Sandro is a tautly written account of life in old Italy. The suspense of the interwoven characters lives keeps you gripped in their world and all the challenges of the time. I strongly recommend this novel."

-Laurie Collins