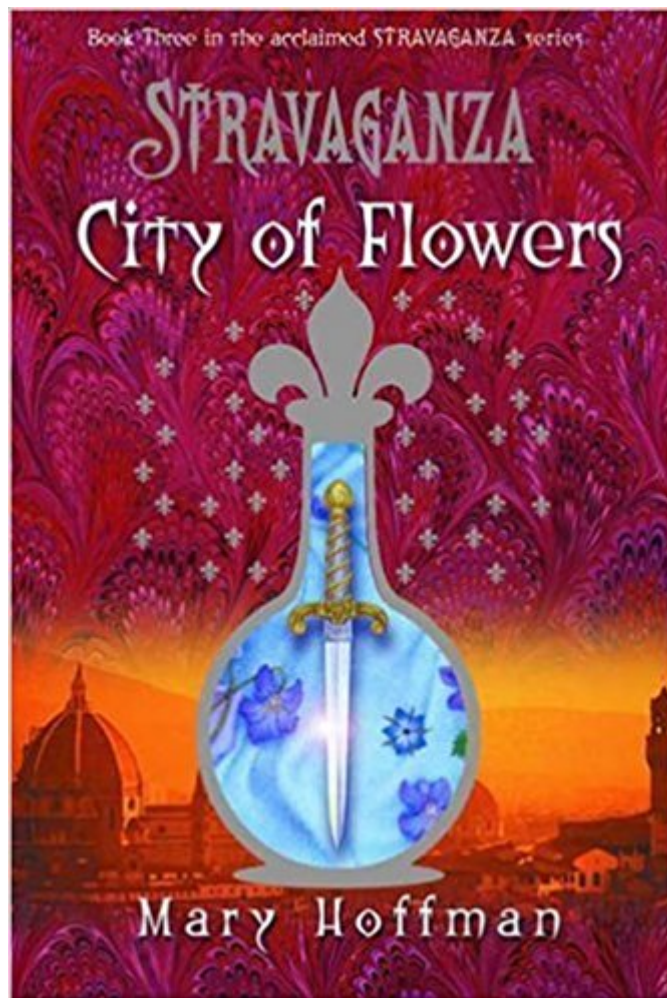


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Stravaganza: City Of Flowers



Synopsis

The latest story in the Stravaganza series unravels amid ever-more-dangerous politics and intrigue. Sky, a new Stravagante, is whisked away from his dreary life in London to Giglia, the Talian version of Florence. Featuring favorite characters from the first two titles in the series, including Georgia and Falco, as well as a host of exciting new characters, this breathtaking adventure will not disappoint. But beware—in the beautiful City of Flowers, much that seems beautiful is in fact poisonous...

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 900L (What's this?)

Series: Stravaganza

Hardcover: 250 pages

Publisher: Bloomsbury USA Childrens; 1st US Ed edition (May 13, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1582348871

ISBN-13: 978-1582348872

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 1.6 x 8.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (16 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #896,040 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #40 in [Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Renaissance](#) #57 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Renaissance](#) #11697 in [Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy](#)

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

This, the third book in the "Stravaganza" series, is almost twice the size of the first installment *City Of Masks* and I can't help but feel that its pacing suffers as a result. Though still rich in detail and description, "City of Flowers" feels rather sluggish at times, with none of the intrigue or urgency that filled the pages of its predecessors. It picks up considerably toward the end of the novel, with weddings and feuds and floods and murders most foul, but the getting there seems to take forever. The Stravaganza books are built on the conceit that certain people from our world are able to "stravagate" in their sleep to an alternative-world version of Italy, a country made up of several city-states known collectively as Talia. There are several conditions in place for stravagation to

occur: travellers first have to be in possession of a talisman specially chosen to allow transportation, they cannot stay in Talia overnight due to the fact their earthly bodies are in a comatose-state whilst they are away, and once they reach Talia they are identifiable by their lack of a shadow. Likewise, Talian citizens are able to stragavate into our world, and throughout the series Mary Hoffman has explored the implications and consequences of such journeys back and forth, adding new characters each time. This time the new Stravagante is Sky Meadows, a teenager who is being raised by a single mother. He has never met his father, a famous rock-singer known as the Rainbow Warrior (and how a rock singer builds a career on that name is a mystery to me).

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