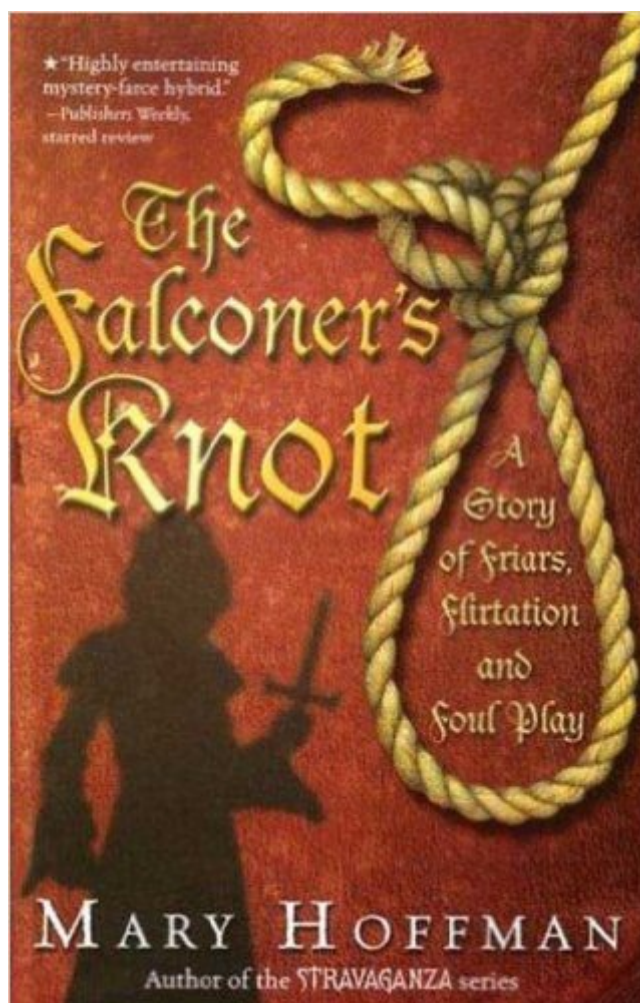


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The Falconer's Knot: A Story Of Friars, Flirtation And Foul Play



Synopsis

The award-winning author of the Stravaganza series has done it again with this atmospheric adventure set in Renaissance Italy. Sixteen-year-old Silvano da Montacuto has wealth, good looks, and a new hawk-but none of these can save him when his bloody dagger is found near a dead body. For his own protection, he is sent to a Franciscan House, where he poses as a novice, or a young monk. There, he lays eyes on Chiara, a lovely novice at a nearby abbey who is also living in secret. When they fall in love, their secret identities make it impossible to reveal their feelings to one another. Murder seems to have followed Silvano, and soon several other dead bodies turn up. Who is committing the crimes? Will a young man accused of multiple murders be able to clear himself? And what about the girl he adores? Fans of Mary Hoffman's critically acclaimed Stravaganza series won't be disappointed in the romance, colorful web of intrigue, and rich, marvelous setting.

Book Information

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Bloomsbury USA Childrens (May 1, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 159990229X

ISBN-13: 978-1599902296

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.8 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #482,277 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #22 in [Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Renaissance](#) #34 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Renaissance](#) #227 in [Books > Teens > Mysteries & Thrillers > Historical](#)

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

I have read hundreds of historical mysteries and this one is top notch. Once I started it, I did not want to put it down. The main protagonists are Silvano, who has sought sanctuary in a Franciscan Friary after being accused of a murder he did not commit, and Chiara, who is forced to enter a neighboring convent because her family does not have the money for a dowry. The supporting characters are very interesting too. The lively plot could be described as Shakespeare meets Brother Cadfael. The fascinating details about color-making and fourteenth century art brought

back happy memories of my visit to the Basilica of St. Francis several years ago.

Three cheers for a book I delighted in reading. Interesting characters, interesting time, and how gently it helped me learn about how colors were prepared for artists--all while wrapped around medieval mystery, mayhem, and murder. The author carefully unwraps the story details and moves the reader through a variety of points of view, but still holds the reader captive. This is a terrific book for mature young readers and young mature readers as our sympathy moves from teen angst to adult sorrow. I'm so glad this book fell off the library shelf and with the title alone invited me to read it.

I liked it so much that I have read it 5 times. I am retired high school teacher have delt with students for 50 years. This book and the City of Books I have recommended to my students which they relate to.

This poorly written novel is confusing and has absurd characters. Someone kills because he smells paint, and the characters are very one-dimensional. No anti-hero spin. Our school taught this book, and the students hated it. The setting is nice, and there are some nice themes about friendship. It is a mystery that I could have done without.

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