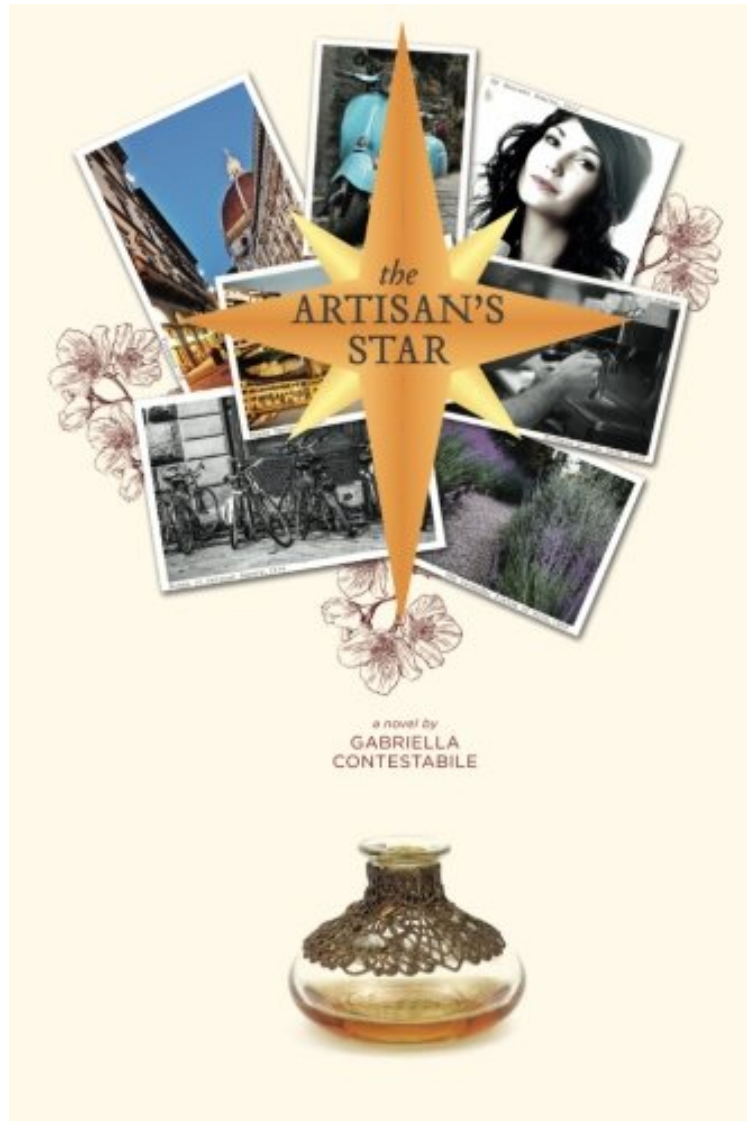


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The Artisan's Star: A Novel

Gabriella Contestabile

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Gabriella Contestabile : The Artisan's Star: A Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Artisan's Star: A Novel:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Awaken your Senses!By Murphy bReading this novel was like enjoying a fine wine. Every sense became alive.The plot involves the choices we make in life, accepting the choices of our children, as well as others that we love. It also involves accepting the inevitable process of aging. This novel is definitely thought provoking as you can't help but reflect on your own life. However, the book is far more than the

plot. The writing is so wonderfully descriptive that you feel as though you can see, smell, taste and feel the world of the characters. I found myself becoming more aware of my own surroundings as I read the book; more aware of the beauty around me and more aware of appreciating the present moment. This book also made me acutely aware of making quality, vs quantity choices in material things, as well as in time. I highly recommend this enjoyable read! Warning though...you will be booking a trip to Florence!!! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Un libro romantico ...By Daniela Artisan's Star brings us to the old Italian artisan world, with a very unique experience for all senses. A precious book that reconnects us with magical Florence, the incredible land of Tuscany and the miracle of creativity that has been for centuries the treasure of Italian people... The author engages us in this imaginary trip to Florence, with detailed description of places, foods, wines, people, traditions and everything beautiful Italian, that feels so real that you forget about Here and Now. You just want to be there to taste, smell, see everything... and meet Elio Barati in his perfumery shop for that special fragrance... Beautiful, romantic novel, well written, keeps you involved. I can see it made into a movie someday! Grazie and arrivederci... 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Artisans Star is a grand tour of the senses. ...By G. Terry Artisans Star is a grand tour of the senses. From Florence to Grasse to Greece, the reader is treated to a rich experience of sights, sounds, tastes, and especially fragrance. Mz. Contestabile is an author you can trust when it comes to travel, food, the customs and culture of Florence, and the business of perfumery. Local artisans in Florence, a city steeped in tradition, must face change and create new lives. They do it with the same passionate intent they live each day with, turning loss and regret into acceptance and renewed possibility.

Elio Barati's perfumery shop in Florence marks its entrance with a mosaic star. This shop immerses Elio in the artisanal world he loves, but he harbors a regret. As a young man he created a full-fledged perfume of jasmine, iris, and cypress at the renowned Ecole des Parfumeurs in Grasse. His idealism and stubbornness boxed away before ever bringing it to light. A second star now brightens Elio's life, his daughter Romina, an artist. She has her father's unrealized talent, a precise and intuitive sense of smell. She's also inherited more challenging traits of Elio's: unbridled ambition and an insatiable wonder for the world. But changes ripple through modern-day Florence. Artisan traditions wane; and when Romina tells her father she has no intention of running the family business Elio fights to hold on to the Florence he cherishes. Confronting the lost opportunities of his youth, Elio is thrust into this journey by five spirited women: his Greek mother, Elena; his mentor Palma; his soul mate, Marina; his astronomer wife, Sofia; and finally his beautiful artist daughter, who like the city of her birth, shows him how tradition and modernity can and must co-exist. Now he must alter his own path by harnessing the transformative powers of the fine and artisanal arts.

About the Author Gabriella Contestabile is an author, educator, and owner of SU MISURA JOURNEYS, a boutique travel company connecting people to the artisans of Florence. She emigrated, with her parents, from Italy to New York City in 1959. In her pre-writer life, she worked as a foreign language teacher, management development specialist, and fragrance/cosmetics executive. She is a strong advocate of the arts, of multiculturalism, and of social justice, a passion inspired by reading Dickens and Dante at a very young age. She lives on the Upper West Side with her husband, her daughter, and a furry ShihTzu named Oreo. THE ARTISAN'S STAR is her first novel.