**-1-**

**Venice Triumphant:** The distinguished café now known as Florian’s. Women were not supposed to be served there in Sophie’s day, but that regulation was mostly ignored.

**Evening bell:** The *marangona* (a bell which originally called carpenters to the Arsenal) told the hours of start and cessation of work.

**Saint Mark’s:** The *Piazza San Marco*, the main square of Venice.

**Clock-tower:** The *Torre del Orologio*.

**Haberdashers’ Street:** The famous *Mercerie* shopping street, running from the Rialto Bridge to Saint Mark’s Square.

**Wells:** The *Pozzi*, beneath the Doge’s Palace. The cells on the other side of the notorious Bridge of Sighs were in the New Prison.

**Lead-slabbed attic:** The feared *Piombi*, the cells under the roof of the Doge’s Palace.

**Lenôtre:** Chevalier Lenôtre, a spy in Sophie’s acquaintance.

**Council of Ten:** The *Consiglio dei Dieci*, Venice’s shadowy governing body.

**Spindle Alley:** *Sotoportego dei Fuseri.*

**Serenissima:** Venice famously styled itself the “Most Serene Republic”.

**Artisans’ Lane:** *Calle dei Fabbri*.

**Fanti:** Police spies.

**Terraferma:** Specifically, the mainland dominions of the Venetian republic, as opposed to the usual English dry-land sense of *Terra firma*.

**Xaver:** Xaver Rautzen**,** Sophie’s controller, a “reader” or secretary to Prince Granitz.

**Hofburg:** The Viennese centre of Habsburg government.

**Corona:** Corona Mundt, a violent Venetian moneylender.

**Gräfin:** Countess.

**His Highness:** Prince Luitpold Zvonimir von Wolfsberg-Granitz, Chancellor to the Empress of Austria, Maria Theresia.

**Two Swords:** The *Do Spade* near the Rialto Bridge, operating today as a public house.

**Magazzen:** Or *magazzino*, an all-day eatery pawning articles for wine and offering rooms for hourly hire. There was one in each Venetian parish.

**Tabarro:** The black Venetian cloak familiar from so many eighteenth-century images.

**Broglio:** Promenade in front of Saint Mark’s church, reserved for nobles.

**Zendale:** Sophie’s lacy Venetian shawl.

**Saint Gall:** Saint Gall or Gallus was a (possibly Irish) missionary active in seventh-century heathen Europe.

**La Biondina in Gondoleta**: *The Blonde in the Gondola*, a well-known Venetian song. Sophie’s memory is playing her false, though; the earliest version of the text is from ten years later.

**Presenting its stone gospel**: Images of the winged lion symbolising Saint Mark are ubiquitous in Venice and its previous dominions. The text in the lion’s book proclaims *Pax tibi Marce, evangelista meus* (Peace unto you, Mark, my evangelist).

**The plague doctor’s mask:** A plague doctor wore a mask with a beak-like proboscis, stuffed with antiseptic herbs, to keep infection at a distance. The mask was (and is) popular in Venice during Carnival.

**Mirko:** Mirko Kružić, the Croat ex-Pandour who served Corona as lieutenant north of the Alps.

**Arlecchino:** Harlequin, a character from the old Commedia dell’ Arte performances.

**Louis heels:** “French” heels (as popularised by the height-challenged Louis XIV) enjoy a stylish central pinch.

**Morra:** A game based on guessing the number of fingers to be revealed by a group of players.

**Tricorne:** Three-cornered hat.

-2-

**German Foundation**: The *Fondaco dei Tedeschi*, the merchants’ emporium plus living quarters on the Grand Canal.

**Bauta:** The classic skull-like Venetian mask.

**Horvath:** A sergeant in the *Rumorwache*, the Viennese police, who tortures Sophie in *The Prussian Dispatch*.

**Rialto Bridge:** At this time, the only foot-crossing of the Grand Canal.

**Her man in Munich:** Mirko Kružić, referred to by Arrigo in the previous chapter.

**Pirates:** Uskok and Albanian marauders based in Ulcinj, on the Montenegrin coast, were a persistent nuisance in Venetian waterways.

**Moretta:** The familiar female black oval mask, held on by gripping an inside button with the teeth, was thought to impart an air of silent mystery.

**Her Imperial Majesty:** Habsburg empress Maria Theresia.

**I have done Venice many a service**: Sophie quotes the standard German text of *Othello*.

**The White Lion:** The well-known *Albergo del Leon Bianco*, where Emperor Joseph II stayed on an earlier visit to Venice.

**Mestre:** Staging post on terraferma and starting point of today’s causeway to Venice.

**Camilla:** Camilla Bergauer, *née* Mereau, long-term friend of Sophie and wife of Viennese police captain Franz Bergauer.

**Liebe Sopherl:** Dear Sophie.

**Aurelia:** Aurelia Rathenau (1699-), aunt of Sophie’s husband Gustl.

**Bettina:** Bettina Schmidtke Hunger, Aurelia’s maid.

**Mesmerism Therapy:** Anton Mesmer (1734-1815) discovered the principles of hypnotism. At this time he was attempting to treat patients in Vienna through the aid of magnets.

**Saint Anthony’s Fire:** Ergotism, poisoning caused by a fungus that infects cereal grains.

**Dry gangrene:** Classic symptom of the disease.

**Sabine:** Sabine Waldeck, former nursery-maid of Camilla, now running and improving the Black Whale, Sophie’s favourite Viennese fleapit.

**Gustl:** August (“Gustl”) Graf von Rathenau (1736-1765), Sophie’s late husband, an artillery major ennobled for his part in the Battle of Kolin in 1757.

**Six-toothed prow:** The frets of a gondola’s prow are held to stand for the six districts of Venice.

**Ridotto:** A gambling den. There were many of these, but Xaver means the most notorious, at San Moisè.

**Saint Paul:** San Polo, one of those six *sestieri*, on the other side of the Grand Canal from the San Marco district.

-3-

**Marie**: Sophie’s affectionate name for the Blessed Virgin.

**Altarpiece:** Titian’s, depicting the Assumption.

**Frari:** The church of *Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari.*

**Cesare:** Cesare Innocenti, business adviser to Theo Weydmann and son of Mare Innocenti, who rents Sophie a room in Venice.

**Sophie Süssmayr:** Sophie’s maiden name.

**Mare Innocenti:** Mother of Cesare Innocenti.

**Sbirri:** Police.

**Ilzing:** Sophie’s native village, near Salzburg.

**Saint Barnabas’ Square:** *Campo San Barnaba.*

**Palazzo Loredan:** Sophie means the *Palazzo Loredan dell’ Ambasciatore*, the seat of the Habsburg resident (ambassador) in Venice, not the Palazzo Loredan in the San Marco district.

**Portego:** Great hall of a Venetian palazzo.

**Maria Theresia’s thirteen children:** Accounts by conventional historians allow the Empress but twelve living children.

**Emperor Joseph:** The reforming Kaiser Joseph II, who governed the Habsburg Empire with Maria Theresia after his father’s death.

**Maria Antonia:** Better known to the world as Marie Antoinette.

**Asiago:** Characteristic Venetian cheese.

**Eccellenza:** “Your Excellency”, in the Italian version.

**Evviva:** “Hooray”.

**Traghetto:** Normally a ferry, but in this case a larger style of gondola.

**Andron:** Canal-side entrance hall of a Venetian palazzo.

**Abigails:** Maids.

**Hoheit:** “Highness.”

**Exzellenz:** “Your Excellency,” in German.

**Vair:** Squirrel fur.

**Lucullan:** The Roman Lucullus was noted for his sumptuous banquets, much more of a byword in German than in English.

**Schönbrunn:** The Habsburg (summer) palace in Vienna.

**Rubinelli:** Giovanni Battista Rubinelli, the famous *castrato* singer.

**Guadagni:** Gaetano Guadagni, another celebrated castrato.

**Souper:** Dinner.

**Salute:** Santa Maria della Salute, the famous church dedicated to the Virgin as deliverer from plague.

**Speziale:** Apothecary*.*

**Spielberg:** Prison in Brünn (today’s Brno) where Granitz threatens to imprison Sophie unless she does his bidding.

**Sestiere:** Venice is divided into six districts or *sestieri*.

**Zattere:** Promenade to the south of the city, famous for its views.

**A flushed maid in a cap of silk gauze:** Evidently a higher-status maid.

-4-

**Dietrich Hofer:** Organiser of sexual services at Vienna’s Versailles Club.

**Iss ja gut:** “It’s all right.”

**Calzatanto:** An odd name, literally meaning a larger shoe size.

**Tallières:** The bankers, from the *banca* or bench they occupied in gambling houses. Croupiers were originally their assistants, scooping up the losses of unlucky gamblers.

**Imperial Prince:** There were many hereditary princes in the Habsburg realm, but an imperial prince like Granitz attained that rank through merit.

**Igitt:** German expression of disgust.

**Ma non si fa là dietro:** “They don’t do that there.”

**Cucina povera:** Peasant cuisine.

-5-

**Sarcenet:** Fine material, typically silk.

**Bacino:** The Basin of San Marco, surrounding Venice’s principal waterfront.

**Customs House:** The *Dogana.*

**Campanile:** The distinctive bell-tower in Saint Mark’s Square.

**Saint George the Greater:** *San Giorgio Maggiore*,famous church by Palladio.

**Stali:** Gondolier’s directional cry, according to Ruskin in *The Stones of Venic*e.

**Cannaregio:** One of Venice’s sestiere, or districts.

**Miss Burney:** The reference appears to concern some lost work by the celebrated English novelist.

**Geto:** Venice’s obligatory Jewish enclave was the original ghetto. The meaning of the word itself is obscure, possibly referring to the foundry or *getto* that once existed in that area, or being a truncated version of *borghetto*, ‘little town’, among other explanations.

**The harshest winter anyone remembered:** That of 1748-1749.

**Cannaregio Bridge:** Today more typically known as the *Ponte delle Guglie*, from the *guglie* or spires added in the nineteenth century.

**Fondamenta:** Pavement between buildings and canal.

**Castradina:** Cured mutton, a Venetian favourite.

**Fondaco dei Turchi:** Business centre and lodgings for Ottoman traders. As with the Fondaco dei Tedeschi, subject to the strict control of Venetian authorities.

**Dschingis:** The Turk Dschingis Balyckschjollu, chief enforcer of Theo Weydmann and colleague of Cesare Innocenti and Dietrich Hofer at the Versailles Club in Vienna.

**Inquisitors:** Team of three judges, aided by a host of spies and informers, working for the Council of Ten.

**Riva:** Private quay, *or* length of fondamenta facing open water.

-6-

**Orfeo:** An opera by Christoph Willibald Gluck.

**Colonna:** G.M.Colonna, Italian painter of frescoes, murals, and *trompe l’oeil* ceilings.

**Belvedere:** The famous palace of Prince Eugene of Savoy in Vienna.

**Soldo:** Copper coin, worth much less than the *zecchino* or sequin.

**Venise, toute entière à sa proie attachée**: “Venice, utterly fixed on its prey.” Sophie had evidently been reading Racine, though she quotes imprecisely from *Phèdre*.

**Domino:** A long black cloak (though this name is sometimes given to masks).

**Per pietà, perdonate:** “Forgive me, please.”

**Signore Maschera:** “Masked sir”, the standard way of addressing a male in a mask.

**Golden Book:** The *Libro d’Oro* listed Venice’s noblemen.

**Basetta:** In this game, players counted on a banker’s turned-up card having a relation to one which they had already revealed and bet on. Basetta was notorious for its dizzying increase in stakes as rounds progressed.

**Biribi:** Similar to roulette, in that players wagered on squares. Winning numbers were drawn from a bag, however, rather than a wheel.

**In Candia:** “Broke.” Candia was the Venetian name for its colony of Crete, the inhabitants of which were oppressed by heavy taxes.

**Sior:** Venetian for “sir”.

**Mantua:** A one-piece dress that hung from the shoulders.

**Felicità:** “Bless you” (in this instance).

**Chi siete, bell’ idolo mio:** Who are you, charming one?

**Posso:** “May I?”

**Tasso:** Torquato Tasso (1544-1595), Italian epic poet.

**Come mai:** “How can that be?”

**Scusate, zentildonna:** “Excuse me, my lady.”

**’Ndrangheta:** Mafioso gang from Calabria.

**Penso di no:** “I don’t think so.”

**Cimarosa:** Italian opera composer.

**Gluck:** German composer of French and Italian operas.

**Notarzt:** While this name is clearly wrong—it means “emergency doctor”—the actual composer to whom Larry refers has not been identified.

**Alcázar:** Typical name for a Moorish castle in Spain.

**Credete a me:** “Believe me.”

**Cosa c’è***:* “What’s wrong?”

**Diderot:** French *philosophe* and art critic.

-7-

**Catalogue raisonné:** Heavily annotated catalogue of an artist’s works.

**Arcadio Malvento:** Kidnapper killed by Sophie.

**Filippo Benucci:** Child kidnapped by Malvento.

**Sonja:** Standard Slavic diminutive for “Sophie”.

**Capuchin Crypt:** Habsburg burial place in Vienna.

**Zecca:** The Venice mint.

**Grofitsa:** Croatian for “Gräfin”.

**Saint John Nepomuk:** Martyred in 1393 for keeping inviolate the secrets of the confessional.

**Signor Longhi:** Alessandro Longhi (1733-1813), Venetian portraitist and son of the celebrated painter Pietro Longhi.

**Prater:** Well-known Viennese park.

-8-

**Maenad:** The Maenads were the crazed and ecstatic devotees of the Greek god Dionysus, who in Euripides tear King Pentheus to shreds.

**Bathsheba:** Wife of Uriah the Hittite in the Bible, admired of King David.

**Rubens:** The Flemish painter Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640) is renowned, among other things, for painting fleshy female figures from the Bible.

**À l’anglaise:** In corkscrew ringlets.

**Palladian villas:** A country house of the Veneto, in the influential classical style of architect Andrea Palladio (1508-1580).

**The Doges’ Chapel:** Saint Mark’s, not at this time the cathedral of Venice.

**Signora Manzolini:** Anna Morandi Manzolini’s anatomical models in wax were the most detailed representations of the time, and so admired that she was offered the chair of medicine at Bologna.

**Luca von Ahns:** Munich chief of police in *Lay Brothers*.

**Den of thieves:** Saint Mark’s Church (and square) is indeed a repository of international loot. Doge Enrico Dandolo (1107-1205) diverted the Fourth Crusade to ransack the fabulously wealthy city of Constantinople instead of liberating Jerusalem, which was its stated mission.

**Pala d’Oro:** Golden screen behind the main altar in Saint Mark’s.

**One of them:** The Fourth (1202–1204).

**Green-bronze horses:** The horses which now look out from the loggia of Saint Mark’s, the Triumphal Quadriga, are a copy of the classical sculptures taken from Constantinople. The originals are conserved inside the church.

**Piazetta:** The Piazetta di San Marco is a smaller square connecting Saint Mark’s Square with the lagoon.

**Two columns:** The columns of Saint Mark (with winged lion) and San Todaro, an earlier patron of the city, stand at the edge of the Piazetta. These pillars are probably further loot from the Fourth Crusade.

**Servo umilissimo:** “Your most humble servant.”

**Bellissima signorina:** “Most lovely lady.”

**Piacere, signore:** “Pleased to meet you, sir.”

**Villanelle:** Pastoral poem with a much-repeating rhyme-scheme.

**Ma certo:** “But of course.”

**Perfetto:** “Perfect!”

**Realtina:** Evening work-bell.

-9-

**Giusti dei:** “Good heavens!” More literally, “Righteous gods!”

**Fermati:** “Stop!”

**Cosa dicono:** “What are they saying?”

**Stelle:** Literally “Stars”; expression of surprise.

**Halodri:** Lout (southern German).

**Griass di, Sophie:** “Hello, Sophie” (southern German).

**Justaucorps:** The jacket of the three-piece ensemble, which, with long matching waistcoat and breeches, is the forerunner of our business suit.

**Bella, chi sei:** “Who are you, lovely one?”

**Ca’ Rezzonico:** Palazzo on the Grand Canal, now the Museum of the Eighteenth Century.

-10-

**Flora:** Roman goddess of spring.

**Buona fortuna, contessa:** “Good luck, countess.”

**Caffè de’ Letterati:** Famous meeting-place of Venetian writers and intellectuals, and often the starting point of absurd episodes in Lorenzo da Ponte’s memoirs.

**The one in Frankfurt:** As with so many of Sophie’s references, the poet referred to here has never been identified.

**Her future tomb:** In the Capuchin Crypt in Vienna.

**Julia:** Name by which German theatre-goers are used to thinking of Juliet.

**The Chess Turk**: This seeming automaton in Turkish guise, which played chess with fascinated opponents, began its career in Schönbrunn in 1770 and was eventually understood to have had a human operator.

**My Omi:** Sophie means her grandmother, Celeste “Celi” Schaidl (1705-1764).

-11-

**IHS:** Principally associated with the Jesuits, this symbol can stand for Jesus Christ, Son (of God); Jesus Christ, Saviour; or In This Sign (you will conquer), the visionary message legendarily seen by Constantine.

**Ignaz:** Sophie’s grandfather, Ignaz Süssmayr (1697-1762).

**Ernst:** Ernst Rathenau, Gustl’s younger brother.

**Eugene of Savoy:** (1663-1736), Imperial general, hero of the Habsburg-Turkish wars and the War of the Spanish Succession.

**Schlösschen:** The Rathenau seat in Ilzing.

**Janissaries:** Elite Ottoman corps.

**Subito:** “Straight away”.

**Fetzenschädel:** “Idiot”; literally, “rag-head”.

**Saint Nicholas of the Lettuce:** *San Nicolò della Lattuga*, in the San Polo district.

**Missier Grande:** Or Messer Grande, commander of Venice’s secret service under the Council of Ten.

-12-

**A kiss-me-quick beauty mark:** The significance of (applied) beauty spots depended on their shape and placing. Elise’s signalled a passionate nature.

**Louche:** Haugwitz might well not know this expression for “rakishly shady”, since French was at this time both highly fashionable and only patchily understood. Nowadays English words are tossed into German in the same casual way, with no one entirely sure exactly which terms are understood by the population as a whole.

**An underground prison:** Sophie is almost certainly thinking of the subterranean casemates of Brünn’s Spielberg prison.

**Attenzione:** “Careful!”

**Louise cap:** A style in which hair is bunched about the nape of the neck, rather than atop the head.

**Arsenal:** Venice’s famous ship-building yards, where the city liked to impress guests by demonstrating the construction of a galley in a single day.

**Eliatico:** A Cypriot wine popular in Venice: as such, a reminder of the city’s colonial past.

**All’istante:** “Immediately.”

**Sior Gozzi:** This is evidently Count Carlo Gozzi (1720-1806), dramatist and poet. Gozzi championed the traditional, improvisational *Commedia dell’Arte* stage against the modernising scripted tendencies of Carlo Goldoni, a quarrel which led to Goldoni’s *de facto* exile.

**Prego, siora:** “Please, madam.”

**Caterina:** This may, tantalisingly, be a reference to Caterina Dolfin Tron (1736-1793), renowned and free-thinking Venetian *littératrice*.

**Canaletto:** Giovanni Antonio Canal (1697-1768), the celebrated painter of Venetian views, known as “Canaletto”. Sophie was probably unaware of his demise.

**Chopine:** A kind of platform shoe, designed to keep hems above the mud of the street, and particularly convenient in Venice’s frequent flooding.

**Caraco:** Woman’s thigh-length jacket with longer sleeves.

**The Purple Cloak:** Traditional part of the Missier Grande’s garb.

**Hudson:** Island in the lagoon.

**Angiola:** Fiery and impoverished scion of a patrician clan, Angiola Tiepolo was certainly da Ponte’s lover.

**O my prophetic spirit**: Sophie’s Shakespeare is just a little different from ours.

-13-

**Cara:** “Dear, love.”

**Samos:** A Greek wine, like eliatico, redolent of Venice’s colonial past.

**Cagliostro:** Count Cagliostro (1743-1795), otherwise Giuseppe Balsamo, the notorious mountebank occultist.

**Ospedale:** Orphanage.

**Tsao:** *Ciao*, in Venetian.

**Felza:** Gondola cabin.

**Gauner, Ganove, Windhund, Schürzenjäger, Nichtstauger, Lumpsack, Haderlump, Hochstapler, Halodri:** These informal and dialectal expressions are variations on the theme of “cheat”, “womaniser”, and “nogoodnik”.

**Vorsicht:** “Careful”.

**Beckle meyien, kontes:** Today’s version would read *beklemeyin, kontes.* Unable to read Ottoman Turkish, Sophie renders these phrases according to German orthography.

**Colay gelsien:** *Kolay gelsin*.

**Grand Seigneur:** Conventional term for the Ottoman Sultan.

-14-

**Buon schorno:** *Buon giorno*, “Good morning”, in a marked German accent.

**Ma dove? Nol so:** “But where? I don’t know.”

**Cartoleria:** Stationer’s.

**Zaeti:** Sometimes *zaleti*; a popular Venetian biscuit or cookie.

**Germans:** In this era German national identity does not yet exist; Sophie uses the term in its ethnic sense.

**Adorato:** “Darling.”

**Procuratie:** Administrative buildings forming the sides of Saint Mark’s Square.

**Come si dice:** “How does one say…?”

**Schikse:** Usually rendered *shiksa* in English: a non-Jewish girl.

**Sotoportego:** Passage.

**Collapse of the circulation:** Sophie is referring to *Kreislaufkollaps*, a disorder widespread in the German-speaking world, if little known elsewhere.

**Little Square of the Schools:** *Campiello de le Scuole*.

**My mother:** Maria Wolff Süssmayr (1722-1744).

**Ceneda:** Town in the Veneto, birthplace of da Ponte.

-15-

**Metastasio:** Pietro Metastasio (1698-1782), librettist.

**Mocenigo:** Aristocratic Venetian clan, one of whom was Doge at this period.

**Schatz:** “Treasure.”

**Boychick:** Affectionate term for young man.

**Mikvah:** Baths.

**Tesoro mio:** “My treasure.”

**Fanni Werthenheimer:** Viennese friend of Sophie’s, usually cited as the inspiration of any of her outré practices. Depilation was very unusual for European women in Sophie’s time, the process being painful and even dangerous; still, it was not unknown. Sophie had picked up the habit on the Ottoman side of the Military Frontier, where it was more widespread (and less of an ordeal).

**Abbiamo fortuna:** “We got lucky.”

**Los:** “Go!”

**Snub-nosed lady’s gun:** This was known as a muff; extraordinarily, this term also signifying female pudenda.

-16-

**Faccia da cazzo:** The closest equivalent may be “dickhead”.

**Standardo:** Street lamp.

**Chi siete:** “Who are you?”

**Mi chiamo:** “My name is…”

**È brillo:** “He’s drunk.”

**Dove:** “Where (do you want to go)?”

**Saints John and Paul:** Not the saints of the Gospel and Acts respectively, but two early Christian martyrs.

**Dio mio;** “My God.”

**Kitchen-Latin:** German term for dog Latin.

**By the Adriatic Waters:** This work has not survived, owing perhaps to the circumstances depicted.

**Saint Catherine of Siena:** Fourteenth-century mystic felt to have influenced the return of the Avignon Papacy to Rome.

**Condottiere:** Captain of mercenaries. This statue, by Andrea del Verrocchio, is of Bartolomeo Colleoni (1400-1475), who served both Venice and Milan.

-17-

**Born to trouble, as the sparks fly upward**: Job, 5:7.

**Extreme Unction:** Part of the Last Rites.

**Aigen:** District south of Salzburg.

**Pine cone:** The spirit derived from these is called *Zirbenschnapps*.

**Schafberg:** Mountain overlooking Sophie’s home village on the Wolfgangsee.

**Sister Zelatrice:** Nun concerned with maintaining discipline in an Ursuline convent.

**Georg:** Sophie’s driver in *The Prussian Dispatch*.

**Liver-grown:** Having an enlarged liver (or sometimes suffering from pleurisy, popularly supposed to be caused by the extension of the liver to the ribs).

**Mollwitz:** Opening encounter of the War of the Austrian Succession.

**Falling-cap:** Small children generally wore padded caps to ward off buffets to the head.

-18-

**Cordial:** Laudanum, probably.

**Her own toy farm at Versailles**: The *hameau*, it was called. But Sophie’s memory, as so often, is deceiving her, since the French queen’s farm wasn’t established until the 1780s.

**Respiro:** “I breathe once more.”

-19-

**Two stone under weight:** The implication is that Sam’s testicles have been underemployed.

**Heads or eagles:** Heads or tails. The Habsburg eagle was on the other side of the coins Sophie was used to.

**Apostles’ Square:** *Campo dei Santi Apostoli*.

**Like a shorn Graben Nymph’s:** Head-shaving was the punishment allotted to prostitutes under Maria Theresia’s criminal code.

**Soapmakers’ Street:** *Calle dei Saonieri*.

**Puckle gun:** Early and unpromising flintlock version of the machine-gun.

**Saint Pantalon:** The church of *San Pantaleone Martire*. His relics, like those of Saint Lucy, had been transferred to Venice, where his became a popular name. Bestowed on a commedia dell’arte character, it eventually came to signify something like “old buffer”. But some argue that the popularity of the name derived from the early pioneers of Venetian empire, who could be said to have “planted a lion” — the Venetian flag— in foreign parts.

**Saint Roch:** San Rocco, a fourteenth-century saint, whose invocation is sovereign against plague, usually depicted with the dog that healed his wounds by licking them.

**Image at Peterwardein:** Of Our Lady of the Snow, commissioned by Prince Eugene of Savoy in thanks for protection against the Turks in war.

**Chi sei? Gianni:** “Who are you? Gianni?”

**Zovena:** “Young lady.”

**The apparition at Capurso:** Of the Blessed Virgin, who advised an incurably sick priest to drink water from a well named for her; whereupon he recovered.

20-

**Yok:** Literally “does not exist”, but often enough signifying “no”, or bearing a vaguely negative import.

**Efendim:** “Sir.” Nowadays the term is extended to both genders.

**Sansovino Library:** Designed by Jacopo Sansovino in the sixteenth century after a suggestion of Petrarch’s, it now houses the National Library of Saint Mark.

**Malamocco:** Main settlement on the Lido.

**Faced the clock-tower:** Hence the ominous Venetian imprecation, *te fasso veder mi che ora che ze,* “I’ll show you what time it is.”

**Permesso?** “May I?”

**Ganymede:** Male homosexual. Ganymede was so handsome that Zeus, in the form of an eagle, scooped him up to act as his cupbearer on Olympus; among other obligements.

-21-

**Bucentaur:** On Ascension Day, by long custom, the Doge symbolised the union of city and sea by dropping a ring from the Venetian state barge, the Bucintoro. In a gesture of like theatricality, Napoleon had the ship destroyed.

**Saint Nicholas:** The island now (and sometimes then) called the Lido.

**The crusader shrine:** Of which, alas, all trace has vanished.

**Might even tell right from left:** Shoes, in Sophie’s time, conformed to the feet through wear, rather than being constructed as right or left.

**Casolari:** The farmhouses of the Venetian lagoon.

**The White City:** Sophie means Belgrade, taken by Prince Eugene in 1717 for the Habsburgs.

**Pandour:** Croat irregular.

**Heydück:** Brigand, from Croatian *hajduk*.

**Laggiù, verso l’altare vecchio:** “Back there, near the old altar.”

**Davver:** “Yes.”

**Lycopodium powder:** This vegetable mix (still used today) was a common way of representing fire on stage.

**Ne znam:** I don’t know.

-22-

**Saint Mary’s:** Santa Maria della Salute, the plague church at the southern end of the Grand Canal.

**Nol so: “**I don’t know.”

**Maria Vergine:** An oath invoking the Blessed Virgin.

**A presto:** “See you soon.”

**Has dicked you in the nob:** “Has you befuddled.”

**Molly:** Gay man.

**Clapper:** Female.

**Ragusa/Zara:** Today’s Dubrovnik and Zadar, respectively.

**Mi pento:** “I’m sorry.”

**Andiamo subito:** “Let’s go.”

**Link-boy:** Boy, known as a *codega*, with torch to light dark streets. Venice being well lit, especially in the central areas, this service wouldn’t be needed everywhere in the city. Or on bright nights, which was why these boys were sometimes known as “moon-cursers”.

**Meno male:** “Not bad.”

**Sono proprio innamorato:** “I’m truly in love."

-23-

**Saint Mary of the Miracles:** *Santa Maria dei Miracoli*.

**Torte de lasagne:** Not lasagna as we know it, but a layered cake of onion, nuts and fruit.

**Pidocchi:** Sea-louse soup (in actual practice made with mussels from the lagoon).

**Saint Anthony:** The saint, hearing the youth’s confession, mused that so culpable a foot should be struck off. Understanding this as his penance, the young man obliged with a hatchet, to the great distress of his family. But Saint Anthony’s prayer for the young man’s restoration to bipedality was answered.

**Verena:** Aurelia’s sister, Verena Rathenau Mühr (1702-1769).

**Saint Julian:** The church of San Zulian.

**Ramo:** Section of a *calle*, a Venetian lane.

**Rio:** Smaller canal.

**Bombardieri:** Irregular police.

**Human pyramid:** The *forze d’Ercole* (not quite extinct) was competitive, teams from rival districts assembling to display their strength.

**But wasn’t porphyry something you were born into:** Sophie’s confusion is understandable. Imperial families are traditionally born into the purple, ie entitled to wear purple cloth, but Byzantine emperors were born in a room faced with purple porphyry stone**.**

-24-

**Vizio:** Deputy.

**Poverino:** “Poor man.”

**Lustrissimo:** Short for *illustrissimo*, the usual address for dignitaries.

**No, purtroppo:** “Unfortunately, not”.

**Air-stitched lace:** *Punto in aria*. Lace stitched without the support of a backing fabric was a speciality of the lagoon.

**Two-edged sword:** Reminding the Doges of their fourteenth-century predecessor Marin Falier, beheaded between the two columns for an attempted coup.

**Denunciations:** Letters denouncing wrongdoers could be posted in the Lion’s Mouth, the *Boca de Leon*, at various points in the city. Charges had to be substantiated and were investigated thoroughly. Unsavoury as the practice seems to us, it may have long preserved the Venetian Republic from takeover by despots, the usual fate of other Italian city states.

**The bridge:** The *Ponte dei Sospiri*, the Bridge of Sighs, leading to the Doge’s prison.

**Buona sera, Cesare:** “Good evening, Cesare.”

-25-

**Foggia:** Provincial town in the south of Italy.

**Bragozzo:** Mediterranean fishing/trading vessel.

**Tartana:** Similar to the bragozzo.

**Abla:** “Big sister”.

**Osmanlı:** “Ottoman Turkish”, written in an Arabic script ill-suited to Turkish phonology, was an elevated blend of Arabic and Persian favoured by the Ottoman elite, while ordinary people used “rough Turkish”. Modern Turkish is essentially the latter, with Arabic and Persian borrowings distinctly unpopular.

**Hanym:** *Hanım* in today’s orthography, “lady”.

**Saint Stae:** *San Stae*, or “Eustachius”.

**Akbasch:** *Akbaş*, “white-headed”.

**Morea:** Old name for the Peloponnese. Dschingis’ presence there suggests he was active in the 1770 Orlov Uprising, a Greek revolt against the Ottomans half-heartedly supported by Catherine the Great.

**Saint Jeremy:** *San Geremia*.

**Saint Lucy**: *Santa Lucia*.

**Horde:** The appropriate term, from Turkish *ordu*, “army”, via Polish *horda*. To eastern ears the words would seem more elevated, as in Urdu, which is a curtailed version of a phrase meaning “the tongue of the exalted host”.

**Gazis:** Warriors for Islam.

**Beneath his feet:** The Sultan’s sappers were renowned for their skill.

**Değil mi:** “Is it not so?”

**Inschallah:** Sophie’s mental transliteration of the more familiar *in sha’a llah* “if God wills”.

**Becktaschy:** Promoting Sufi mysticism and also heavily influenced by Shia doctrine, the Bektaşi Order has outlived the spearhead janissary force from which it gained so many devotees, and to which Dschingis belonged. Sufi ideals seem an improbable characteristic in a warlike janissary, but perhaps a helpful comparison is offered by the Catholic military orders which reconciled a martial career with their pursuit of the Beatific Vision.

**Hadi:** In this context: “Fire!”

-26-

**Aiutatemi:** “Help me!”

**Spadrone:** The spadroon was a light sword much used in the military for its double role of slashing and thrusting.

**Her grandfather:** Kaiser Karl VI, who fell ill after hunting all day in the rain.

**Kylytches:** From *kılıç*, an Ottoman type of sword.

-27-

**The spider’s house:** In the *Al-’Ankabut* *sura* of the Qur’an, the spider’s house resembles the New Testament house founded on sand.

**Sàndoli, barchete***:* Smaller Venetian boats.

**Ma shaa Allah: “**Whatever God wills.”

**All that lives must taste death:** From the sura *Al-Imran*.

**Stupefacente:** “Amazing”.

**Non diresti:** “Wouldn’t you say?”

**Beh, non tardar:** “Well don’t take too long.”

**With Romulus and Remus:** ie, by a wolf.

**Saint Michael:** Cemetery island in the lagoon.

**Son qua:** “I’m here.”

**Vetiver:** A lemony fragrance.

**Non reggio più:** “I can stand no more.”

**Addio:** “Farewell."

-28-

**Burchiello:**A much-storied boat plying between Venice and Padua, described by Goethe and Casanova among others.

**Scallop shell:** Sign of the pilgrim on the Way of Saint James.

**Triomphe:** Card game which gave birth to the concept of trumps. A “trump” can be defined as a card which, for the sake of play, is valued above its natural status in the pack.

**Sheep’s head:** Another card game employing trumps.

**Limoncello:** A lemon liqueur.

**Brocatel:** High-relief brocade.

**Il Santo:** Cathedral of Saint Anthony.

**Swarthy Madonna:** Madonna Mora, a black-haired portrait of the Blessed Virgin with olive skin.

**Queen of Bohemia:** Title by which Maria Theresia was often known abroad. She was not formally empress in the sense that her husband and son were emperors—even if she was empress in fact—but the royal title of Bohemia she held in her own right.

**Antonia:** Isabella’s sister, Marie Antoinette.

**Curb my expenses:** A recurring theme in the correspondence between Maria Theresia and Marie Antoinette.

-29-

**Vergelt’s Gott, Sopherl:** “Thank you, Sophie.”

**The church wall:** This has to be the wall of Saint Martin’s, oldest church in Austria.

**Patience:** This remark will be seen as controversial by historians, who hold the game of Patience unrecorded until 1788.

**Potato cheese:**A harvesters’ dish in origin.

**Bruckner:** The grandfather of the famous composer lived at Ansfelden, some miles distant. The internal evidence presented here is so compelling, however, that we must suppose he had an unrecorded period of residence within Linz itself.

-30-

**Rose-Garden:** The*Rosengarten* is a massif overlooking Bozen, capital of the South Tyrol and home to prehistoric Ice-Man Ötzi. Its name derives from a fabulous rose-garden which King of the Dwarves Laurin was said to guard jealously.

**Trent:** Trento, scene of the sixteenth-century Church Council which asserted the Counter-Reformation.

**Brother’s wedding:** Franz of Lorraine, Maria Theresia’s husband, died at Innsbruck in 1765 on the occasion of their son Leopold’s wedding.

**Count none but the happy hours:** *Mach’ es wie die Sonnenuhr/Zähl’ die sonnigen Stunden nur.*