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Sommario/riassunto	The reader is given a rare view of the operations of the Vatican in the diplomatic world and some fascinating sidelights into the Vatican archives such as the role Benjamin Franklin played in the selection of the first Catholic Bishop in the United States and what the Pope actually intended to do about Henry the VIII. Robert Illing brings the reader into the fascinating and colorful political world of the Vatican, a unique entity with the dual nature of political state which functions apart from its other position as center of the Roman Catholic Church. A separate political state with diplomatic