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Sodomy and Male Sociability; Encounters; The Character of Sodomitical Relations; Family Complicity; Friends, Networks, Sodalities; PART III; 6: Politics and Sodomy in the Late Fifteenth Century: The Medici, Savonarola, and the Abolition of the Night Officers; The Lorenzan Age; The Coming Scourge; The Spirit and the Flesh: Sodomy in Savonarolan Florence; The Suppression of the Office of the Night Epilogue: Change and Continuity in the Policing of Sodomy in the Sixteenth Century Appendix A: Penalties Levied; Appendix B: Statistical Tables; Notes; Bibliography; Index

Sommario/riassunto

""This is a superb work of scholarship, impossible to overpraise.... It marks a milestone in the 20-year rise of gay and lesbian studies.""-- Martin Duberman, *The Advocate* The men of Renaissance Florence were so renowned for sodomy that ""Florenzer"" in German meant ""sodomite."" In the late fifteenth century, as many as one in two Florentine men had come to the attention of the authorities for sodomy by the time they were thirty. In 1432 The Office of the Night was created specifically to police sodomy in Florence. Indeed, nearly all Florentine males probably had some kind of same-sex experience
