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Sommario/riassunto

Leading sixteenth-century scholars such as Martin Luther and Desiderius Erasmus used print technology to engage in dialogue and debate with authoritative contemporary texts. By what Juan Luis Vives termed 'the unfolding of words,' these humanists gave old works new meanings in brief notes and extensive commentaries, full paraphrases, or translations. This critique challenged the Middle Ages' deference to authors and authorship and resulted in some of the most original thought - and most violent controversy - of the Renaissance and Reformation. The *Unfolding of Words* brings together international scholarship to explore crucial changes in writers' interactions with religious and classical texts. This collection focuses particularly on commentaries by Erasmus, contextualizing his *Annotations* and *Paraphrases* on the New Testament against broader currents and works by such contemporaries as François Rabelais and Jodocus Badius. The *Unfolding of Words* tracks humanist explorations of the possibilities of the page that led to the modern dictionary, encyclopedia, and scholarly edition.
