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Autore	Black Jane <1945->
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Rulers of Milan, 1287-1535 -- Plenitude of power : absolutism in the Middle Ages -- The early Visconti and the claim to plenitude of power -- Giangaleazzo's investiture and its legacy -- Lawyers and the absolute powers of the duke -- Plenitude of power in practice : preserving justice while infringing rights -- Lawyers and the repudiation of ducal absolutism -- The surrender of absolute power in Milan -- Appendix 1: Certa scientia, non obstante, motu proprio -- Appendix 2: Plenitude of power and iura reservata.
Sommario/riassunto	Absolutism in Renaissance Milan shows how authority above the law, once the preserve of pope and emperor, was claimed by the ruling Milanese dynasties, the Visconti and the Sforza, and why this privilege was finally abandoned by Francesco II Sforza (d. 1535), the last duke.

As new rulers, the Visconti and the Sforza had had to impose their regime by rewarding supporters at the expense of opponents. That process required absolute power, also known as 'plenitude of power', meaning the capacity to overrule even fundamental laws and rights, including titles to property. The basis for such power re

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