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2. Individualism and the cult of creative personality;
3. Machiavelli and Castiglione;
3.1 Machiavelli;
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Chap. 12 The Intellectual and the Ideal of Intellectual Cultivation;
Chap. 13 Classical Scholarship;
Chap. 14 Historiography;
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1.2 Luther's support;
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2. Calvinism and the 'decline of magic'
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2.2 The Calvinist conception of God;
Postscript: Future Prospects; Bibliography; Index

Sommario/riassunto

In this fascinating study, John Stephens interprets the significance of the immense cultural change which took place in Italy from the time of Petrarch to the Reformation, and considers its wider contribution to Europe beyond the Alps. His important analysis (which is designed for students and serious general readers of history as well as the specialist) is not a straight narrative history; rather, it is an examination of the humanists, artists and patrons who were the instruments of this change; the contemporary factors that favoured it; and the elements of ancient thought they revived.
