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Nota di contenuto	v. 1. Introduction: 'erudite' comedy in Renaissance Italy / Donald Beecher ; The pretenders = I suppositi / Ludovico Ariosto ; Cortigiana = La cortigiana / Pietro Aretino ; The ragged brothers = Gli straccioni / Annibal Caro ; Alessandro = L'alessandro / Alessandro Piccolimini ; The sister = La sorella / Giambattista Della Porta. v. 2 Introduction: from Italy to England: the sources, conventions, and influence of 'Erudite' comedy / Donald Beecher ; The Calandria = La calandria / Bernardo Dovizi da Bibbiena ; The Mandragola = La moscheta / Angelo Beolco (Ruzante) ; The horned owl = L'Assiuolo /

Giovan Maria Cecchi ; Frate Alberigo = Il frate / Anton Francesco
Grazzini ; The candlebearer = Il candelaio / Giordano Bruno.

Sommario/riassunto

In this second volume of Renaissance Comedy, Donald Beecher presents six more of the best-known plays of the period, each with its own introduction, reading notes, and annotations. Beecher's general introduction, though stand-alone, complements and extends the historical and critical essay prefacing the first volume. Together, the eleven plays in both volumes illuminate the range, variety, and development of the Italian comedy. The second volume of Renaissance Comedy raises fascinating questions about the uses of classical literature, the conventions of comedy, the politics of theatrical production, and the representation of contemporary social issues. Though it is clear that comedic plays exercised considerable influence over the development of European drama, these plays are above all remarkable for their sheer wit and invention, and their capacity to generate laughter and admiration in readers nearly half a millennium later.
