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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- List of Illustrations -- Preface -- Acknowledgements -- Maps -- 1. A French Youth -- 2. Among the Princes of Law -- 3. 'At Last Delivered': Conversion and Flight -- 4. Exile in a Hidden Corner -- 5. Violent Reformations and Tumult -- 6. Discovering the Church -- 7. 'Lucid Brevity' for the Sake of the Church: Romans -- 8. Building Christ's Church -- 9. Calvin's World -- 10. Healing Christ's Body -- 11. 'Since Calvin Acts So Bravely, Why Does He Not Come Here?': France -- 12. The Years of Conflict -- 13. 'There is No Form of Impiety that This Monster Has Not Raked Up' -- 14. Luther's Heirs -- 15. European Reformer -- 16. The 'Perfecte Schoole of Christe' -- 17. Churches and Blood: France -- 18. Endings -- Notes -- Select Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	During the glory days of the French Renaissance, young John Calvin (1509-1564) experienced a profound conversion to the faith of the Reformation. For the rest of his days he lived out the implications of that transformation-as exile, inspired reformer, and ultimately the dominant figure of the Protestant Reformation. Calvin's vision of the Christian religion has inspired many volumes of analysis, but this engaging biography examines a remarkable life. Bruce Gordon presents Calvin as a human being, a man at once brilliant, arrogant, charismatic, unforgiving, generous, and shrewd. The book explores with particular insight Calvin's self-conscious view of himself as prophet and apostle

for his age and his struggle to tame a sense of his own superiority, perceived by others as arrogance. Gordon looks at Calvin's character, his maturing vision of God and humanity, his personal tragedies and failures, his extensive relationships with others, and the context within which he wrote and taught. What emerges is a man who devoted himself to the Church, inspiring and transforming the lives of others, especially those who suffered persecution for their religious beliefs.

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