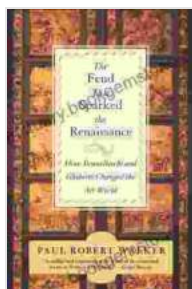


The Feud That Sparked The Renaissance: How the Medici and Pazzi Families Shaped Florentine History

The feud between the Medici and Pazzi families was one of the most significant events in Florentine history. It led to the assassination of Giuliano de' Medici, the exile of Lorenzo de' Medici, and the rise of Girolamo Savonarola. The feud also had a profound impact on the development of the Renaissance, as it led to the patronage of many great artists and scholars.

The Medici Family

The Medici family was one of the most powerful and influential families in Florence. They first rose to prominence in the 13th century, and by the 15th century, they had become the de facto rulers of the city. The Medici were known for their patronage of the arts and sciences, and they played a major role in the development of the Renaissance.



The Feud That Sparked the Renaissance by Paul Robert Walker

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

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File size : 866 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 308 pages

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Cosimo de' Medici, who ruled Florence from 1434 to 1464, was a particularly important patron of the arts. He commissioned many works of art from some of the greatest artists of the time, including Donatello, Botticelli, and Michelangelo. Cosimo also founded the Medici Library, which became one of the most important libraries in Europe.

The Pazzi Family

The Pazzi family was another powerful and influential family in Florence. They were rivals of the Medici family, and they resented the Medici's power and influence. The Pazzi family was also involved in the banking business, and they were jealous of the Medici's success in this field.

Francesco de' Pazzi, who was the head of the Pazzi family in the 15th century, was particularly ambitious. He plotted to overthrow the Medici family and seize power for himself. In 1478, he organized a conspiracy to assassinate Lorenzo and Giuliano de' Medici.

The Assassination of Giuliano de' Medici

On April 26, 1478, Francesco de' Pazzi and his co-conspirators attacked Lorenzo and Giuliano de' Medici during a church service in Florence. Giuliano was killed in the attack, but Lorenzo survived. The assassination of Giuliano sparked a wave of violence in Florence, and it led to the exile of Lorenzo and his supporters.

The Rise of Girolamo Savonarola

In the aftermath of the assassination of Giuliano de' Medici, a new leader emerged in Florence: Girolamo Savonarola. Savonarola was a Dominican friar who preached against the corruption and immorality of the Medici family. He also called for a return to traditional Christian values.

Savonarola's sermons resonated with the people of Florence, and he quickly gained a large following. In 1494, he was elected to the office of Prior of Florence. As Prior, Savonarola introduced a number of reforms, including the banning of gambling, prostitution, and luxury goods.

The Fall of Savonarola

Savonarola's reforms were unpopular with some of the more powerful families in Florence, including the Medici family. In 1498, Savonarola was excommunicated by Pope Alexander VI. He was arrested and tortured, and he was eventually burned at the stake in 1498.

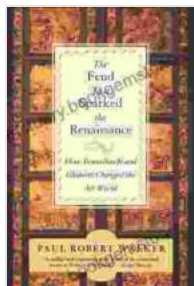
The Legacy of the Feud

The feud between the Medici and Pazzi families had a profound impact on the development of Florence. It led to the assassination of Giuliano de' Medici, the exile of Lorenzo de' Medici, and the rise of Girolamo Savonarola. The feud also had a significant impact on the development of the Renaissance, as it led to the patronage of many great artists and scholars.

The legacy of the feud between the Medici and Pazzi families can still be seen in Florence today. The Medici family's patronage of the arts can be seen in the many works of art that are housed in the Uffizi Gallery and the Pitti Palace. The Pazzi family's legacy can be seen in the Pazzi Chapel, which is one of the most beautiful examples of Renaissance architecture in Florence.

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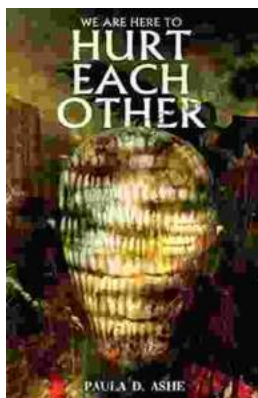
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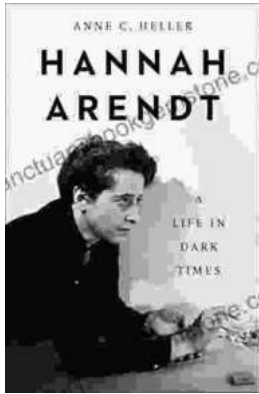
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