



The House of Medici: Its Rise and Fall

By Christopher Hibbert

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At its height Renaissance Florence was a centre of enormous wealth, power and influence. A republican city-state funded by trade and banking, its often bloody political scene was dominated by rich mercantile families, the most famous of which were the Medici. This enthralling book charts the family's huge influence on the political, economic and cultural history of Florence. Beginning in the early 1430s with the rise of the dynasty under the near-legendary Cosimo de Medici, it moves through their golden era as patrons of some of the most remarkable artists and architects of the Renaissance, to the era of the Medici Popes and Grand Dukes, Florence's slide into decay and bankruptcy, and the end, in 1737, of the Medici line.

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The House of Medici: Its Rise and Fall By Christopher Hibbert Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #58958 in Books
- Brand: William Morrow Paperbacks
- Published on: 1999-05-19
- Released on: 1999-05-19
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.25" h x .96" w x 6.00" l, 1.09 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 364 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

"A superb introduction to the history and arts created by one man's greed." ---Books for Breakfast

About the Author

Christopher Hibbert, an Oxford graduate, has written more than fifty books, including *Wellington: A Personal History*, *London: The Biography of a City*, *Redcoats and Rebels*, and *The Destruction of Lord Raglan*. He lives with his family in Henley-on-Thames in Oxfordshire, England.

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