This work relates the history of the Medici family through three centuries and eleven generations, from its rise from obscurity, to its zenith of power and influence, to its eventual decay and ruin. It outlines their history in conjunction with the major events of Europe and dwells much on the artists and artworks patronized by the Medici - the impetus of the Renaissance.

This first volume brings to life the Renaissance and how Florence, through the Medici, was the epicentre of the movement that spread new learning throughout Europe. It describes some of the best and worst of the Medici, including statesmen both good and bad, popes and their intrigues, joyous festivals and tragic assassinations. (Summary by TriciaG)

Read by volunteer readers. Total running time: 14:59:21

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