

Contents

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	ix
Introduction: Feminine Fatherhood?	1
1 What Is a Mother's Worth? The Negotiation of Motherhood and <i>Virtù</i> in Machiavelli's <i>La mandragola</i> (1518)	13
2 Replacing the Father: Negotiating Motherhood and the Battle for Authority in Machiavelli's <i>Clizia</i> (1525)	43
3 Prescribing the Ideal Mother in the Discourse of Humanism and Antonio Landi's <i>Il comodo</i> (1539)	65
4 The Father–Son Conflict and the Dysfunction of Fatherhood in Giovan Maria Cecchi's <i>La stiava</i> (1546) and Ludovico Ariosto's <i>I suppositi</i> (1509)	91
Conclusion: Motherhood as Masculine Identity's Object of Desire	125
<i>Bibliography</i>	129
<i>Index</i>	141