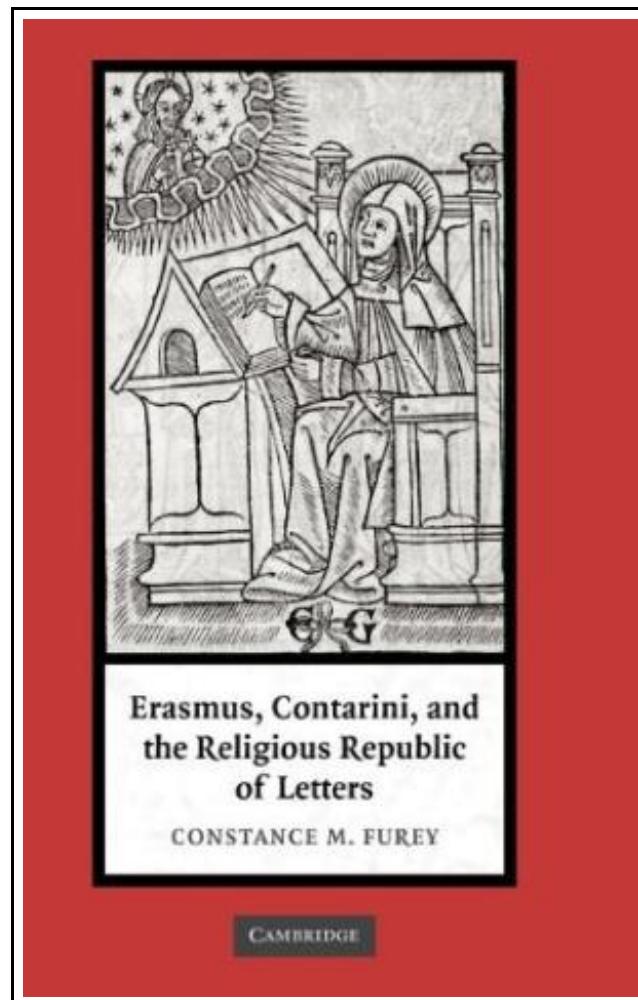


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Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, 2005. Hardcover. Book Condition: Brand New. Dust Jacket Condition: Brand New. First Edition. Though the paradigm of modernist progression has been challenged on many fronts, Erasmus and other sixteenth-century figures are still commonly viewed as people who led the transition from a religious Middle Ages to a more godless modern era. Erasmus, Contarini and the Religious Republic of Letters complicates this transition by analyzing a unique realm of spiritualized scholarship that cannot fit easily into any conventional intellectual chronology. By analyzing the lives, work, and correspondence of Erasmus, Thomas More, Margaret More Roper, Reginald Pole, Gasparo Contarini, and Vittoria Colonna, this book demonstrates how these Catholic men and women of letters created a distinctive kind of religious community rooted in friendship and spiritualized scholarship. By spanning the too frequently respected gap between humanist reformers in northern and southern Europe, the book uncovers a widespread, if previously less visible, network that exhibited concerns we still grapple with today. Counters secularization thesis by showing how Catholic intellectuals created a new kind of religious community rooted in friendship and spiritualized scholarship Provides alternative to current claims about gender in the Renaissance by using sources by women alongside those by men Contributes to the history of reading by showing that for leading Catholic men and women of letters, even non-devotional scholarship was imbued with religious significance

Contents 1. A new kind of religious life; 2. Creating an alternative community: spiritual values and the search for meaning; 3. The spiritual quest: reading and writing about God and salvation; 4. Necessary relationships: desire for God and each other; 5. Defining the ideal: words of praise for fools and bishops, women and martyrs; 6. Epilogue. Printed Pages: 270 with 1 half-tone. Size: 228 x 152 Mm.

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