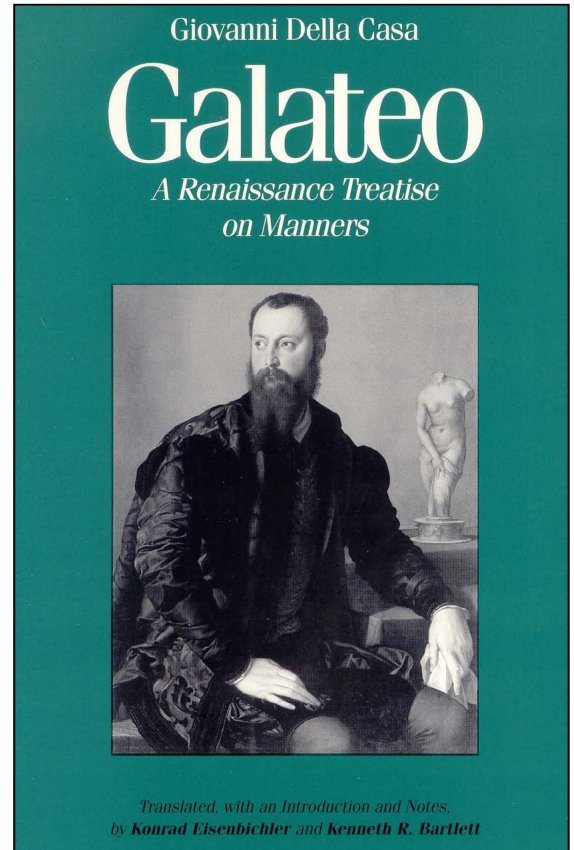


Galateo: A Renaissance Treatise on Manners Giovanni Della Casa

TRANSLATED WITH AN INTRODUCTION AND NOTES BY
KONRAD EISENBICHLER & KENNETH R. BARTLETT

By attempting to codify manners, styles, and values, courtesy books reveal the principles and presuppositions that animate their world. *Galateo* does this brilliantly, reflecting the personal experiences, disappointments, and ambitions of its clerical but worldly author along with the values of his age. Because the author figured prominently in the events of his time (the transition from the High Renaissance to the Counter-Reformation), the lessons are particularly valuable.

Archbishop and diplomat, Giovanni Della Casa (1503–1556) was a papal *nuncio* to Venice, where he played an instrumental role in the establishment of the Venetian Inquisition and the 1549 Index of Prohibited Books. He was an accomplished poet, an arbiter of taste, and the most influential writer on social practice of his time. *Galateo* provides the modern Italian term for good manners: “not to know the galateo” is to have no manners at all!



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