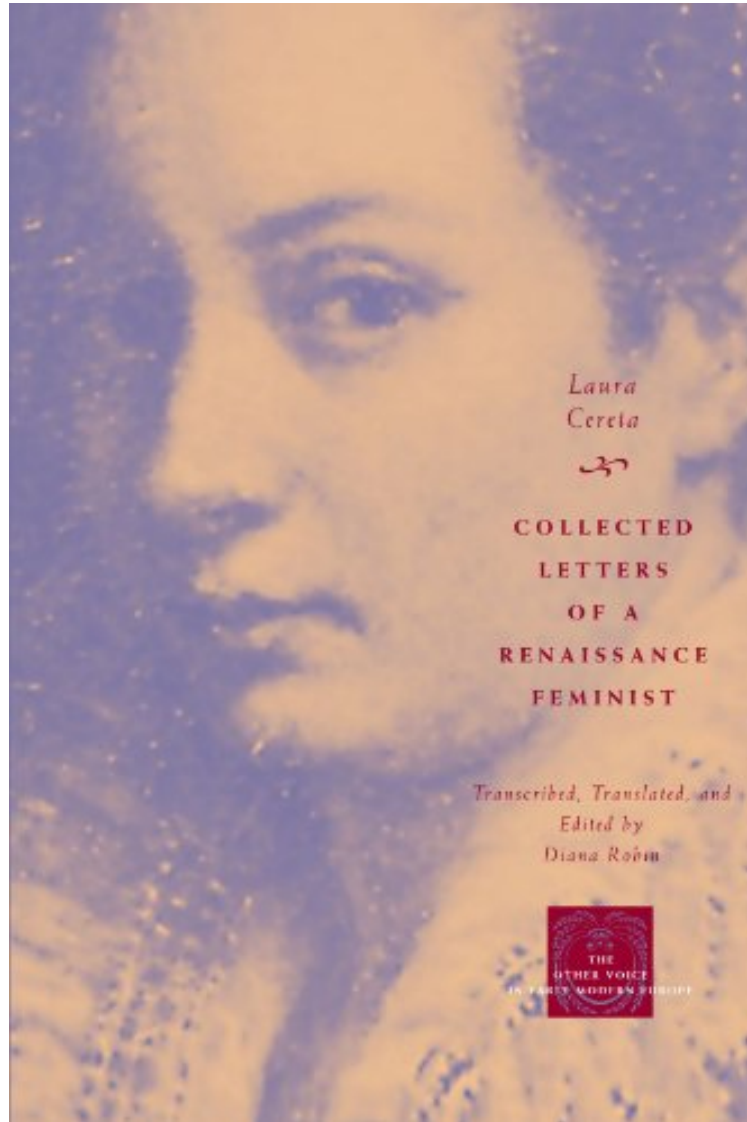


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Collected Letters of a Renaissance Feminist (The Other Voice in Early Modern Europe)

Laura Cereta

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Laura Cereta : Collected Letters of a Renaissance Feminist (The Other Voice in Early Modern Europe) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Collected Letters of a Renaissance Feminist (The Other Voice in Early Modern Europe):

Renaissance writer Laura Cereta (1469-1499) presents feminist issues in a predominantly male venue, the humanist autobiography in the form of personal letters. Cereta's works circulated widely in Italy during the early modern era, but her complete letters have never before been published in English. In her public lectures and essays, Cereta explores the history of women's contributions to the intellectual and political life of Europe. She argues against the slavery of women in marriage and for the rights of women to higher education, the same issues that have occupied feminist thinkers of later centuries. Yet these letters also furnish a detailed portrait of an early modern woman's private experience, for Cereta addressed many letters to a close circle of family and friends, discussing highly personal concerns such as her difficult relationships with her mother and her husband. Taken together, these letters are a testament both to an individual woman and to enduring feminist concerns.