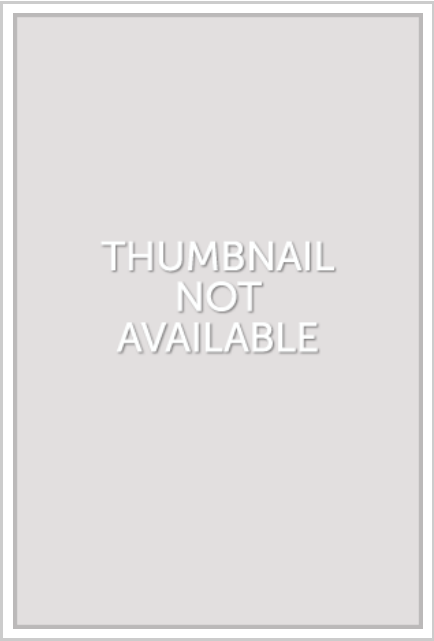


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The Garments of Court and Palace: Machiavelli and the World That He Made

By Bobbitt, Philip.

Atlantic Books. 1 Cloth(s), 2013. hard. Book Condition: New. Written by Florentine public servant and political theorist Niccolò Machiavelli in the early 16th century, The Prince is considered one of the most influential books on politics and power in the modern era. And yet, argues international strategist and constitutional law scholar Philip Bobbitt, this esteemed work is widely misunderstood and taken out of context. Also the author of The Shield of Achilles, and Terror and Consent, Bobbitt describes The Prince as one half of a masterpiece that, along with Machiavelli's overlooked Discourses on Livy, prophesies the end of the feudal era and describes the birth of the neoclassical."Bobbitt's central thesis about The Prince seems to me to embody a valuable corrective. He is right to stress that, not only in the famous letter to Vettori but in several subsequent references, Machiavelli speaks of his book not as The Prince but as a work on principalities. It is also true that the first half of The Prince is largely given over to a taxonomy of different kinds of state and how they can be acquired, whether by inheritance, donation, election, or conquest. Most important, Bobbitt is right to emphasize what he...

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