This work relates the history of the Medici family through three centuries and eleven generations, from its rise from obscurity, to its zenith of power and influence, to its eventual decay and ruin. It outlines their history in conjunction with the major events of Europe and dwells much on the artists and artworks patronized by the Medici - the impetus of the Renaissance.

This second volume begins in 1537 and highlights Catherine, the last of the elder branch, then follows the younger branch to the eventual extinction of the family in 1743. (Summary by TriciaG)

Read by volunteer readers. Total running time: 15:22:50

This recording is in the public domain and may be reproduced, distributed, or modified without permission. For more information or to volunteer, visit librivox.org. Cover images by Naldini, de Leon, Sustermans, van Douven, Anguissola, and unknown artists (painted c.1536-c.1700). Copyright expired in US, Canada, EU, and all countries with author’s life +70 yrs laws Cover design by TriciaG. This design is in the public domain.