Contents

Illustrations	xvii
Abbreviations	xix
Acknowledgments	xxi
Introduction	1
The Other Voice	1
Convent Paradise and Convent Life in Seventeenth-Century Venice	2
The Convent of Sant'Anna	9
The Contours of Monastic Life	16
Composing from the Convent	31
Tarabotti's Literary Works	31
Publishing Convent Paradise: Context and Paratext	34
Reading Convent Paradise	44
In Dialogue with Saint Augustine	44
Style and Rhetoric in Convent Paradise	47
Sources for Convent Paradise	50
Reception and Afterlife	52
Editors' Note	60
Convent Paradise	65
Paratext: Dedication, Letters, and Poems	67
Soliloquy to God	81
Arcangela Tarabotti to the Reader	111
Book One	115
Book Two	163
Book Three	201
"The Archangel: Idyll" and Other Poems	245
Bibliography	259
Index	277