

Contents

Acknowledgments	ix
Illustrations	xi
Introduction	1
The Other Voice	1
Life and Works of Michele Savonarola	5
Gynecology and Midwifery in the Middle Ages	15
Summary and Analysis of the <i>Mother's Manual</i>	20
Treatise One: From Conception to Pregnancy	23
Treatise Two: From Pregnancy to Childbirth	30
Treatise Three: From Birth to Childcare	37
Afterlife of the Text	46
Note on Annotations to the Text	52
Note on the Translation	52
A <i>Mother's Manual for the Women of Ferrara</i>	55
To the Women of Ferrara	57
Treatise One	59
Chapter One. On the form of sexual intercourse to be most advantageously practiced according to one's age	59
Chapter Two. On the time when the husband and wife should engage in sexual intercourse in order to achieve pregnancy	71
Chapter Three. On pregnancy, and the rules that should be observed in order to achieve pregnancy	76
Chapter Four. On the signs of pregnancy	95
Chapter Five. On conceiving male and female infants, and the techniques to be followed so that one sex or the other is conceived, and on signs that reveal whether the fetus is male or female	101
Treatise Two	107
Chapter One. On the regimen of pregnant women	108
Chapter Two. On the conditions or states common to pregnant women	126
Chapter Three. On the regimen of the woman who has given birth	163
Treatise Three: On Raising Children	165
Chapter One. What the midwife should do with the newborn child	165
Chapter Two. On the regimen of children regarding the six non-naturals	173
Chapter Three. On the reduced production of milk and its treatment	187
Chapter Four. On the treatment of small children	190
Chapter Five. On how to care for the well-being of the soul and body of the child	211
Bibliography	219
Index	243