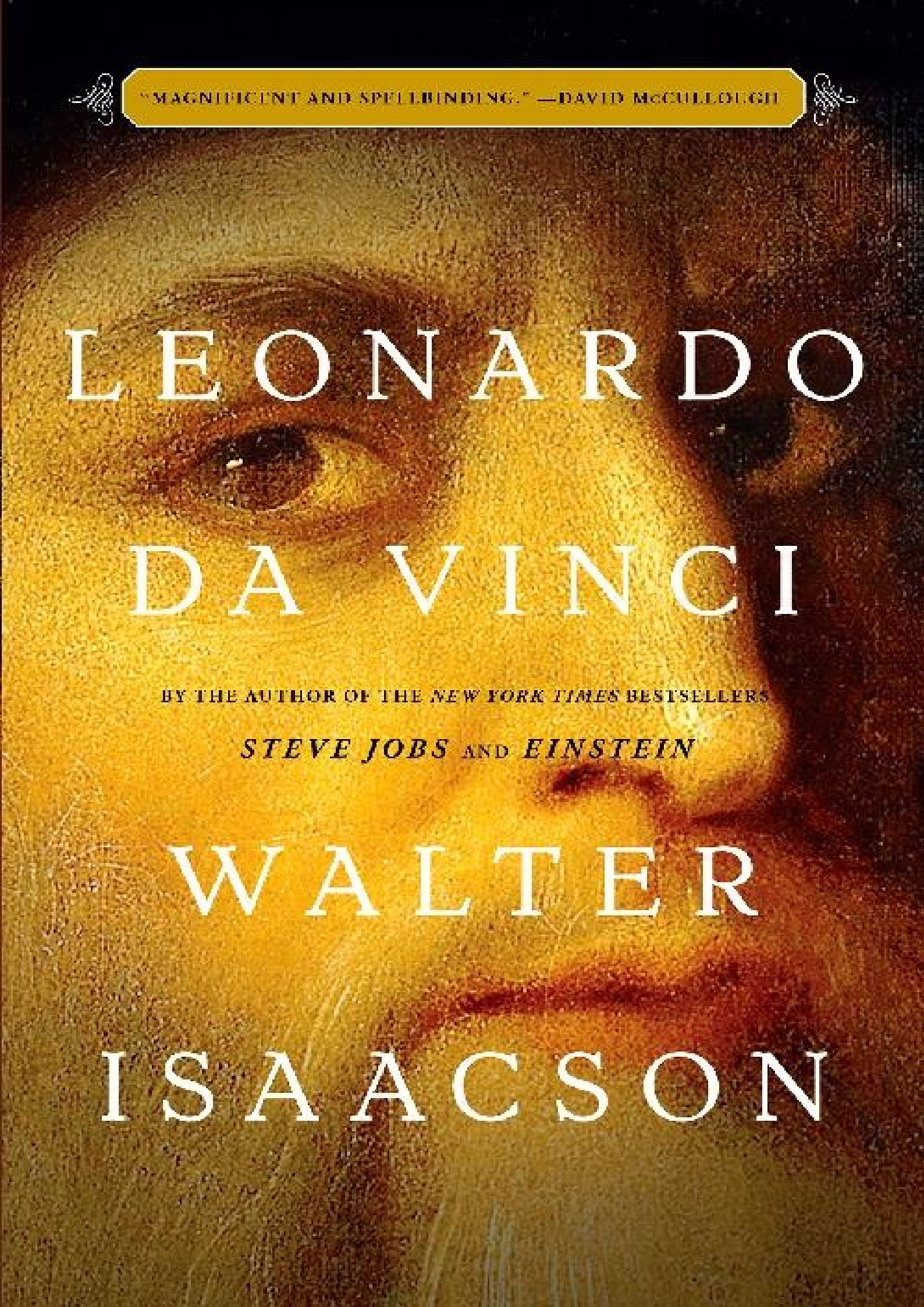




"MAGNIFICENT AND SPELLBINDING." —DAVID MCCULLOUGH

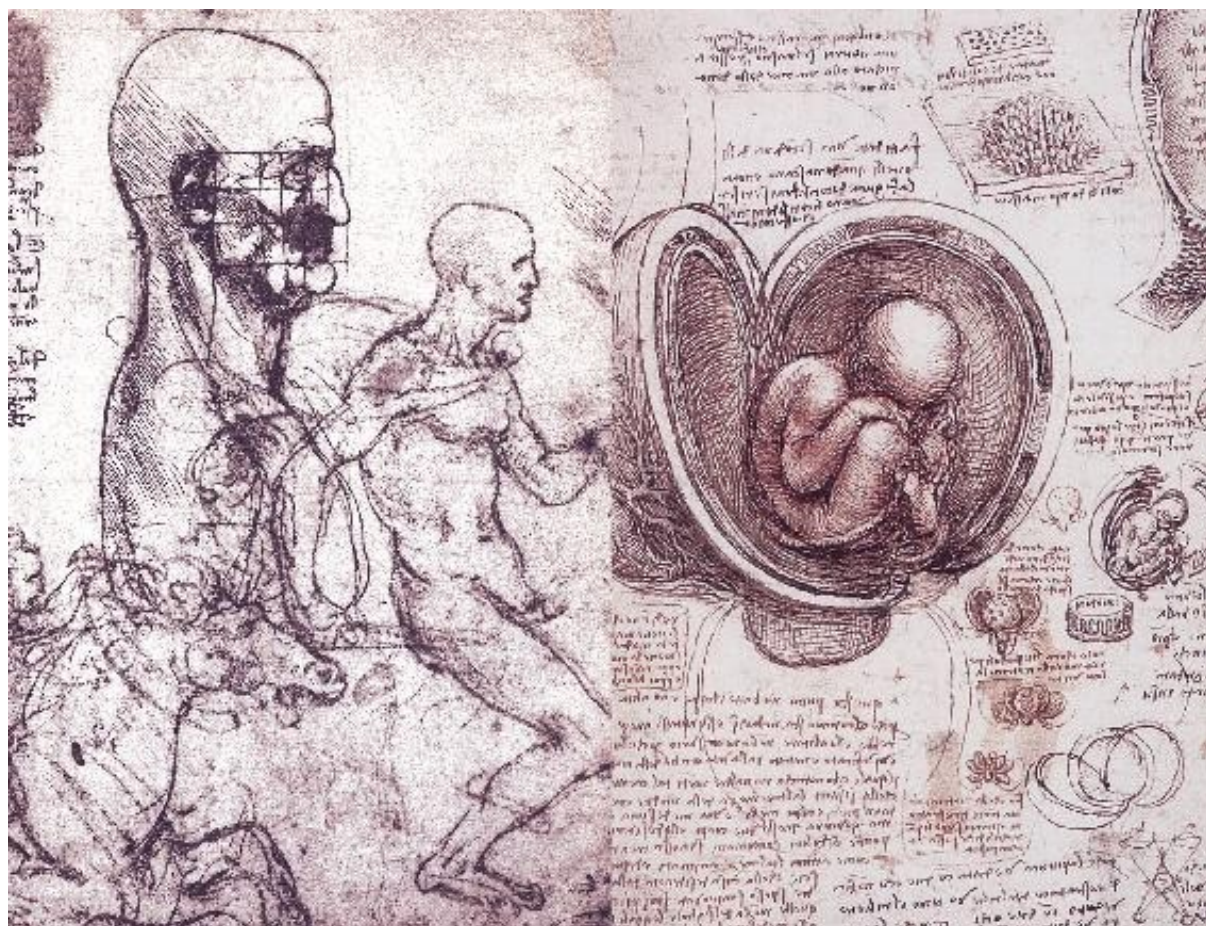


LEONARDO DA VINCI

BY THE AUTHOR OF THE *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLERS

STEVE JOBS AND *EINSTEIN*

WALTER ISAACSON



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MAIN CHARACTERS

Cesare Borgia (c. 1475–1507). Italian warrior, illegitimate son of Pope Alexander VI, subject of Machiavelli's *The Prince*, Leonardo employer.

Donato Bramante (1444–1514). Architect, friend of Leonardo in Milan, worked on Milan Cathedral, Pavia Cathedral, and St. Peter's in the Vatican.

Caterina Lippi (c. 1436–1493). Orphaned peasant girl from near Vinci, mother of Leonardo; later married Antonio di Piero del Vaccha, known as Accattabriga.

Charles d'Amboise (1473–1511). French governor of Milan from 1503 to 1511, Leonardo patron.

Beatrice d'Este (1475–1497). From Italy's most venerable family, married Ludovico Sforza.

Isabella d'Este (1474–1539). Beatrice's sister, the Marchesa of Mantua, tried to get Leonardo to paint her portrait.

Francesco di Giorgio (1439–1501). Artist-engineer-architect who worked with Leonardo on Milan's cathedral tower, traveled with him to Pavia, translated Vitruvius, and drew a version of Vitruvian man.

Francis I (1494–1547). King of France from 1515, last patron of Leonardo.

Pope Leo X, Giovanni de' Medici (1475–1521). Son of Lorenzo de' Medici, elected pope in 1513.

Louis XII (1462–1515). King of France from 1498, conquered Milan in 1499.

Niccolò Machiavelli (1469–1527). Florentine diplomat and writer, became envoy to Cesare Borgia and friend of Leonardo in 1502.

Giuliano de' Medici (1479–1516). Son of Lorenzo, brother of Pope Leo X, Leonardo's patron in Rome.

Lorenzo "the Magnificent" de' Medici (1449–1492). Banker, art patron, and de facto ruler of Florence from 1469 until his death.

Francesco Melzi (c. 1493–c. 1568). From a noble Milan family, joined Leonardo's household in 1507 and became a surrogate son and heir.

Michelangelo Buonarroti (1475–1564). Florentine sculptor and rival of Leonardo.

Luca Pacioli (1447–1517). Italian mathematician, friar, and friend of Leonardo.

Piero da Vinci (1427–1504). Florentine notary, father of Leonardo, did not marry Leonardo's mother, subsequently had eleven other children with four wives.

Andrea Salai, born Gian Giacomo Caprotti da Oreno (1480–1524). Entered Leonardo's household at age ten and was dubbed Salai, meaning "Little Devil."

Ludovico Sforza (1452–1508). De facto ruler of Milan from 1481, Duke of Milan from 1494 until his ouster by the French in 1499, patron of Leonardo.

Andrea del Verrocchio (c. 1435–1488). Florentine sculptor, goldsmith, and artist in whose workshop Leonardo trained and worked from 1466 to 1477.

CURRENCY IN ITALY IN 1500

The ducat was the gold coin of Venice. The florin was the gold coin of Florence. Both contained 3.5 grams (0.12 ounces) of gold, which would make them worth about \$138 in 2017. One ducat or florin was worth approximately 7 lire or 120 soldi, which were silver coins.

NOTE REGARDING THE COVER

The cover is a detail of an oil painting in Florence's Uffizi Gallery that was once thought to be a self-portrait painted by Leonardo. Based on recent X-ray analysis, it is now considered to be a portrait of Leonardo by an unknown artist done in the 1600s. It is based on, or is the basis for, a similar portrait rediscovered in Italy in 2008, called the Lucan portrait of Leonardo da Vinci. It has been copied many times. A watercolor-on-ivory version painted in the 1770s by Giuseppe Macpherson is in the British Royal Collection and in 2017 was in the show "Portrait of the Artist" in the Queen's Gallery of Buckingham Palace.

PRIMARY PERIODS OF LEONARDO'S LIFE

Vinci
1452 – 1464

Florence
1464 – 1482

Milan
1482 – 1499

Florence
1500 – 1506

Milan
1506 – 1513

Rome
1513 – 1516

France
1516 – 1519