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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Table of Contents -- Introductory Note / Gerigk, Horst-Jürgen -- A Glance at the Essays -- Fate, Freedom, and Responsibility -- Moral-Philosophical Subtext in Pushkin's The Stone Guest -- Turgenev's "Knock... Knock... Knock!..": The Riddle of the Story -- Polina and Lady Luck in Dostoevsky's The Gambler -- Pierre and

Dolokhov at the Barrier: The Lesson of the Duel -- Chance and Design: Anna Karenina's First Meeting with Vronsky -- Breaking the Moral Barrier: Anna Karenina's Night Train to St. Petersburg -- Uzhazh in the Subtext: Tolstoy's The Death of Ivan Ilych -- "What Time Is It? Where Are We Going?" Chekhov's The Cherry Orchard: The Story of a Verb -- Two Kinds of Beauty -- The Sentencing of Fyodor Karamazov -- The Defiled and Defiling "Physiognomy" of Fyodor Pavlovich Karamazov -- Dostoevsky's "Anecdote from a Child's Life": A Case of Bifurcation -- The Triple Vision: Dostoevsky's "The Peasant Marey" -- The Making of a Russian Icon: Solzhenitsyn's "Matryona's Home" -- Critical Perspectives -- Dostoevsky's Concept of Reality and Its Representation in Art -- In the Interests of Social Pedagogy: Maxim Gorky's Polemic with Dostoevsky -- Bakhtin's Poetics of Dostoevsky and "Dostoevsky's Christian Declaration of Faith" -- Vyacheslav I. Ivanov's Poem "Nudus Salta!" and the Purpose of Art -- Poetry of Parting -- Intimations of Mortality: Fyodor I. Tyutchev's "In Parting there is a Lofty Meaning" -- The Poetry of Memory and the Memory of Poetry: Igor Severyanin's "No More Than a Dream" -- Supremum Vale: The Last Stanzas of Pushkin's Eugene Onegin. Goethe, Zhukovsky, and the Decembrists -- From the Other Shore: Nabokov's Translation into Russian of Goethe's "Dedication" to Faust -- Index

Sommario/riassunto

Drawing on the prose, poetry, and criticism of a broad range of Russian writers and critics, including Pushkin, Turgenev, Dostoevsky, Tolstoy, Chekhov, Bakhtin, Gorky, Nabokov, and Solzhenitsyn, Close Encounters: Essays on Russian Literature explores themes of chance and fate, freedom and responsibility, beauty and disfiguration, and loss and separation, as well as concepts of criticism and the moral purpose of art. Through close textual analysis, the author offers a view of the unity of form and content in Russian writing and of its unique capacity to disclose the universal in the detail of human experience. With an emphasis on Dostoevsky, Close Encounters foregrounds ethical and spiritual concerns of Russian writers and stimulates the reader to pursue his or her own critical exploration of Russian literature. This work will be of interest to academic libraries, university students, and specialists in literature, criticism, philosophy, and esthetics, as well as enthusiastic general readers of Russian literature.
