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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgements -- Preface -- Introduction -- Chapter One. Three Dream Films: Explorations of Female Identity -- Chapter Two. Experiments in Genre Revision -- Chapter Three. Large Canvases -- Chapter Four. Falling from Grace -- Chapter Five. In the Wilderness -- Chapter Six. Return to Form -- Chapter Seven. Final Phase: More Large Canvases and Minor Works -- Coda -- Filmography -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	In a controversial and tumultuous filmmaking career that spanned nearly fifty years, Robert Altman mocked, subverted, or otherwise refashioned Hollywood narrative and genre conventions. Altman's idiosyncratic vision and propensity for formal experimentation resulted in an uneven body of work: some rank failures and intriguing near- misses, as well as a number of great films that are among the most influential works of New American Cinema. While Altman always professed to have nothing authoritative to say about the state of contemporary society, this volume surveys all of his major films in their sociohistorical context to reposition the director as a trenchant satirist and social critic of postmodern America, depicted as a lonely wasteland of fraudulent spectacle, exploitative social relations, and unfulfilled solitaries in search of elusive community.