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Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction : the thorny place of knowledge -- 2. 'The inconsiderable salarie of Judas' : Biblical historiography and law -- 3. The community of this fruit : commentary, curiosa and chronology -- 4. Subtle seeds and agile emanations : natural philosophy, religion and witchcraft -- 5. 'The doctor quarries with some pictures' : Browne's Fabulous animals -- 6. The politics of painting -- 7. Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	Kevin Killeen addresses one of the most enigmatic of seventeenth century writers, Thomas Browne (1605-1682), whose voracious intellectual pursuits provide an unparalleled insight into how early modern scholarly culture understood the relations between its disciplines. Browne's work encompasses biblical commentary, historiography, natural history, classical philology, artistic propriety and an encyclopaedic coverage of natural philosophy. This book traces the intellectual climate in which such disparate interests could cohere, locating Browne within the cultural and political matrices of his time. While Browne is most frequently remembered for the magnificence of his prose and his temperamental poise, qualities that knit well with the picture of a detached, apolitical figure, this work argues that Browne's significance emerges most fully in the context of contemporary battles over interpretative authority, within the intricately linked fields of

biblical exegesis, scientific thought, and politics. Killeen's work centres on a reassessment of the scope and importance of Browne's most elaborate text, *Pseudodoxia Epidemica*, his vast encyclopaedia of error with its mazy series of investigations and through this explores the multivalent nature of early-modern enquiry.
