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Sommario/riassunto	For the past four centuries, five major languages have dominated Western literature. This domination has excluded or rendered marginal all other literatures - has, in effect, diminished literary diversity and endangered the existence of the literature of "smaller" cultures. In an illuminating defence for their preservation, Francois Pare reflects on the diversity of cultures and languages in the world and on the fantastic richness of "smaller" literatures. He offers us memorable samples of this diversity and, in his original and thought-provoking style, tantalizes us with critical