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| Sommario/riassunto | Feng Menglong (1574-1646) was recognized as the most knowledgeable connoisseur of popular literature of his time. He is known today for compiling three famous collections of vernacular short stories, each containing forty stories, collectively known as Sanyan. Appropriation and Representation adapts concepts of ventriloquism and dialogism from Bakhtin and Holquist to explore Feng's methods of selecting source materials. Shuhui Yang develops a model of development in which Feng's approach to selecting and working with his source materials becomes clear. More broadly, Appropriation and Representation locates Feng Menglong's Sanyan in the cultural milieu of the late Ming, including the archaist movement in literature, literati marginality and anxieties, the subversive use of folk works, and the meiren xiangcao tradition-appropriating a female identity to express male frustration. Against this background, a rationale emerges for Feng's choice to elevate and promote the vernacular story while stepping back from an overt authorial role. |