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Sommario/riassunto	This book re-examines the so-called bbsid revolution, the ethnic character of whose effective constituency has been contested for over eight decades. It also brings to question the authenticity of the bbsid dynastic claim. To establish its two theses (neither Arab nor bbsid) this book employs, in its three parts, three distinct methodological approaches. To reconstruct the secret history of the clandestine Organization, Part One elicits a narrative through a rigorous application of the historical-critical method. Part Two subjects to close textual analysis some prime-grade literary specimen. In Part Three, a purely

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quantitative approach is adopted to study the demographic character of
the formal structures of leadership within the Organization. History,
historiography, heresiography, literature, the narrative, the textual
analysis, and the quantitative approach, cannot be less inseparable.