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Autore	Barbour Julian B
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Sommario/riassunto	Introduction. 1. Preliminaries. 2. Aristotle: first airing of the absolute/relative problem. 3. Hellenistic astronomy: the foundation are laid. 4. The Middle Ages: first stirrings of the scientific revolution. 5. Copernicus: the flimsy arch. 6. Kepler: the dominion of the sun. 7. Galileo: the geometrization of motion. 8. Descartes and the new world. 9. Huygens: relativity and centrifugal force. 10. Newton I: the discovery

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