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Autore	Brady Frank
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Altri autori (Persone)	BradyFrank WimsattW. K
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- Introduction. Samuel Johnson (1709-1784): A Calendar Of His Career -- Bibliographical Note -- Letters -- Poems -- The History of Rasselas, Prince of Abyssinia -- Selections from The Rambler -- Selections from The Idler -- Preface to A Dictionary of the English Language -- Preface to The Plays of William Shakespeare -- Lives of the Poets
Sommario/riassunto	This is a major new selection of Samuel Johnson's best work, delightfully introduced by W. K. Wimsatt and scrupulously annotated by Frank Brady and Mr. Wimsatt. Samuel Johnson, the only writer in English since the Renaissance to give his name to a literary period, was the center of English letters in his time. He was Dictionary Johnson, the lexicographer who had single-handedly settled the English language (it was hoped) on a firm basis; he was the author of a handful of fine poems, including two of the most remarkable satires of the century; he was a moralist whose Rambler and Idler essays, and novel-of-ideas Rasselas, provided a searching view of men and matters. And in his final years he produced his greatest work, that extraordinary

combination of biography and criticism which came to be known as the Lives of the Poets. This first extensive anthology of Johnson's writings to be published in many years emphasizes Johnson the writer. It responds to those aspects of Johnson's work of special interest to modern readers. It comprises a selection of Johnson's letters, all of his major poems (including London), Rasselas, twenty-one Rambler, nineteen Idlers, the Prefaces to the Dictionary and to the edition of Shakespeare, and the following Lives of the Poets: Cowley, Milton, Swift, Pope, Savage, Collins, and Gray. All these works are extensively annotated and printed complete. Mr. Wimsatt, one of the outstanding Johnsonians of this century, provides in his Introduction a clear, connected biographical account of Johnson, stressing his writings. An up-to-date bibliography is also included. Johnson's varied accomplishments-as poet, as moralist, as biographer, as critic-are all amply represented.

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