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Autore Propertius Sextus

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Santirocco

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Nota di contenuto Front matter -- CONTENTS -- FOREWORD: READING PROPERTIUS --

THE ELEGIES -- NOTES

Sommario/riassunto These ardent, even obsessed, poems about erotic passion are among

the brightest jewels in the crown of Latin literature. Written by

Propertius, Rome's greatest poet of love, who was born around 50 b.c., a contemporary of Ovid, these elegies tell of Propertius' tormented relationship with a woman he calls "Cynthia." Their connection was sometimes blissful, more often agonizing, but as the poet came to recognize, it went beyond pride or shame to become the defining event of his life. Whether or not it was Propertius' explicit intention, these

elegies extend our ideas of desire, and of the human condition itself.