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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- A Note on References and Translations -- Introduction -- Chapter One. Was Julien Viaud Gay? An Examination of the Evidence -- Chapter Two. Contextualized Suggestion and Ambiguity: Aziyadé -- Chapter Three. Discovering a Fuller Range of Sexuality: The Marriage of Loti -- Chapter Four. A Plea for Sexual Understanding: The Story of a Spahi -- Chapter Five. Man (Men?) in Love: My Brother Yves -- Chapter Six. Different Contexts, Different Sexualities: Iceland Fisherman -- Chapter Seven. The Origin of Sexual Ambiguity in the Madame Butterfly Legend: Madame Chrysanthemum -- Chapter Eight. A Proustian Probing into Childhood and the Beginnings of Sexuality: The Story of a Child -- Chapter Nine. Works of Self-Doubt: A Phantom from the East and Sailor -- Chapter Ten. Creating the Allegorical Gay Novel: Ramuntcho -- Chapter Eleven. A Defence of Homosexuals and a Consciousness Raising: The Awakened -- Conclusion -- Notes -- Works Cited -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Writing at first anonymously and later under the pen name Pierre Loti, French author Julien Viaud (1850-1923) produced a series of fictions

that sympathetically portrayed male same-sex desire and its accompanying societal conflicts. Due to the constraints of the time, Viaud had to develop various strategies for discussing his subject covertly; his success in doing so is demonstrated by the great critical and commercial success he enjoyed during his lifetime, which included his election to the French Academy at age forty-one. Richard Berrong presents a gay reading of the novels and novellas of Julien Viaud, chronologically tracing his development of a distinct homosexual identity and the strategies that he employed to discuss it in a way that would not be obvious to the general public. In so doing, Berrong asserts that Viaud's development of a homosexual identity undermined and realigned dominant constructions of masculinity, presented the need for gay community, and elaborated the role of literature for gay men. The first book-length gay reading of Viaud's corpus, this work will make an important contribution not only to the study of Viaud, but also to the study of gay and lesbian history, culture, and literature.
