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Sommario/riassunto	During the Second World War, a number of young Canadian poets converged on Montreal and, in a few years of little-magazine and small-press publication, rewrote the story of modern English-Canadian poetry. The Montreal Forties establishes a new reading of Canadian modernist poetry in this crucial decade, during which the radical impersonality of high-modernist poetics gave way to an ironic expression of the modern individual in years of unexampled geopolitical and private crisis. The book discusses four major English-Canadian poets of the forties; P.K. Page, A.M. Klein, Irving Layton, and Louis Dudek. The character of the decade's poetry is explored through close scrutiny of the largely unread work published in the little

magazines *Preview* and *First Statement*, as well as reference to their criticism, correspondence, and journals. Brian Trehearne shows that the Canadian poets emerging in Montreal in the 1940s faced in common a coherent set of artistic challenges general to poetry in English at that time. Chief among these was the function and value of the striking modernist Image in the 'whole' poem newly demanded of a generation at war, a matter vigorously debated by poets in Britain and the United States as well. *The Montreal Forties* allows us for the first time to see artists as diverse as Page and Layton, Klein and Dudek as part of a single Canadian and international generation, and breaks new ground for critics of Canadian modernist poetry.
