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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Note on Texts -- Introduction: 'Sense, sight and song' -- Chapter One. 'The world of words': Johnson, Locke, and Congregationalism -- Chapter Two. Parleying, Troping, and Fragmenting: Pauline, Paracelsus, and Sordello -- Chapter Three. 'Why need I speak, if you can read my thought?': The Unacted Drama, 'My Last Duchess,' and "Childe Roland" -- Chapter Four. 'I kept time to the wondrous chime': Rhyme's Reason, 'Love among the Ruins,' The Inn Album, and 'Of Pacchiarotto' -- Chapter Five. 'Adjust Real vision to right language': The Idealist Goal of Language, 'Parleying with Christopher Smart,' 'Abt Vogler' and 'Saul' -- Chapter Six. 'For how else know we save by worth of word?': The Ring and the Book -- Chapter Seven. 'One thing has many sides': Browning's 'transcripts,' Balaustion's Adventure and Aristophanes' Apology -- Chapter Eight. 'Do you say this, or I?': Browning's 'parleyings,' La Saisiaz, Red Cotton Night-Cap Country, and Fifine at the Fair -- Overview and Conclusion -- Notes -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	What are the influences that shaped the language used by one of the nineteenth century's greatest writers? How did his religious beliefs, the

books he owned, the paintings and music he loved, affect almost sixty years' output of poems, plays, essays, and letters? This book attempts to define Browning's understanding of the nature and use of words and syntax by considering not only a full range of texts from the 1833 *Pauline* to the 1889 *Asolando*, but also the ideas important to Browning, the historical context in which he lived, and the other artistic passions that played a part in his life. In this companion volume to *Tennyson's Language*, Donald Hair establishes Browning's place at the crossroads between empirical and idealist traditions and explains his "double view" of language, arguing that both Locke and the Congregationalists found language to be at the same time empty and a God-given essential. The Victorian age's anti-theatrical bias, which Browning came to share, and his reading of predecessors, principally Quarles, Bunyan, Donne, and Smart, also shaped his understanding of the diction of poetry. Hair conceives of Browning's language as a theoretical whole, encompassing words, genres, rhyme, syntax, and phonetics. He also links Browning's interest in music with his rhyming, the most essential and characteristic feature of his prosody, and relates his interest in painting to the interpretation of the visual image in the emblem and in typology.

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