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Sommario/riassunto	Pastoral Drama and Healing in Early Modern Italy represents the first full length study to confront seriously the well rehearsed analogy of the pastoral poet as healer. Building on Derrida's work on the Platonic pharmakon, which led to a better understanding of the theater / drug analogy, the stringent approach to the therapeutic function of the Renaissance pastoral offered in this work provides a valuable critical tool to unpack the complexity of a little-understood cliché.