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Nota di contenuto	Modern mentalities and medieval polities Medieval : another tyrannous construct? The insecurity of travel in the early and high Middle Ages : criminals, victims and their medieval and modern observers Debating the 'feudal revolution' Pre-Gregorian mentalities Whose race, whose ethnicity? Recent medievalists' discussions of identity Nobles and others : the social and cultural expression of power relations in the Middle Ages Regemque, quem in Francia pene perdidit, in patria magnifice recepit : Ottonian ruler representation in synchronic and diachronic comparison Contextualising Canossa : excommunication, penance, surrender, reconciliation Velle sibi fieri in forma hac : symbolic acts in the Becket dispute Assembly politics in Western Europe from the eighth century to the twelfth Sex, lies and oath-helpers : the trial of Queen Uota Plunder and tribute in the Carolingian empire The end of Carolingian military expansion The Ottonians and Carolingian tradition The making of England and Germany, 850-1050 : points of

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	comparison and difference Kings, nobles and others : 'basis' and 'superstructure' in the Ottonian period The 'imperial church system' on the Ottonian and Salian rulers : a reconsideration Peace- breaking, feud, rebellion, resistance : violence and peace in the politics of the Salian era The medieval German Sonderweg? : the Empire and its rulers in the high Middle Ages Mandate, privilege, court judgement : techniques of rulership in the era of Frederick Barbarossa All quiet except on the Western Front? : the emergence of pre- modern forms of statehood in the high Middle Ages.
Sommario/riassunto	This is a collection of influential and challenging essays by British medievalist Timothy Reuter, a perceptive and original thinker with extraordinary range who was equally at home in the Anglophone or German scholarly worlds. The 2006 book addresses three interconnected themes in the study of the history of the early and high Middle Ages. Firstly, historiography, the development of the modern study of the medieval past. How do our contemporary and inherited preconceptions and pre-occupations determine our view of history? Secondly, the importance of symbolic action and communication in the politics and polities of the Middle Ages. Finally, the need to avoid anachronism in our consideration of medieval politics. Throwing light both on modern mentalities and on the values and conduct of medieval people themselves, and containing articles, at time of publication, never previously been available in English, this book is essential reading for any serious scholar of medieval Europe.