Record Nr. UNINA9910457573403321 Autore Burgwinkle William E. <1951-> **Titolo** Sodomy, masculinity, and law in medieval literature: France and England, 1050-1230 / / William E. Burgwinkle [[electronic resource]] Cambridge:,: Cambridge University Press,, 2004 Pubbl/distr/stampa 1-107-15113-9 **ISBN** 1-280-54091-5 0-511-21501-0 0-511-21680-7 0-511-21143-0 0-511-31550-3 0-511-48473-9 0-511-21320-4 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xii, 298 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) Collana Cambridge studies in medieval literature; ; 51 820.9384 Disciplina Soggetti Homosexuality in literature Sodomy in literature Masculinity in literature Literature, Medieval - History and criticism Homosexuality - Europe - History Sodomy - Europe - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015). Includes bibliographical references (p. 203-291) and index. Nota di bibliografia : Introduction -- ; Part. I. Locating sodomy -- Locating sodomy --Nota di contenuto Imagining sodomy -- ; Part. II. Confronting sodomy -- Making Perceval: double-binding and sieges perilleux -- Queering the Celts: Marie de France and the men who don't marry -- Writing the self: Alain de Lille's De planctu naturae -- ; Conclusion. Sommario/riassunto William Burgwinkle surveys poetry and letters, histories and literary fiction - including Grail romances - to offer a historical survey of attitudes towards same-sex love during the centuries that gave us the Plantagenet court of Henry II and Eleanor of Aguitaine, courtly love, and Arthurian lore. Burgwinkle illustrates how 'sodomy' becomes a

problematic feature of narratives of romance and knighthood. Most texts of the period denounce sodomy and use accusations of sodomitical practice as a way of maintaining a sacrificial climate in which masculine identity is set in opposition to the stigmatised other, for example the foreign, the feminine, and the heretical. What emerges from these readings, however, is that even the most homophobic, masculinist and normative texts of the period demonstrate an inability or unwillingness to separate the sodomitical from the orthodox. These blurred boundaries allow readers to glimpse alternative, even homoerotic, readings.