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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	What is the Bible? -- How biblical writers wrote -- The making of the Old Testament -- The making of the apocrypha -- The making of the New Testament -- The canon of the Bible -- The study of the Bible -- The use of the Bible.
Sommario/riassunto	The Bible is one of the most influential and profound texts in human history - it is disturbing, unconventional, and never content with the world as it is. This classic introduction presents a concise and accessible guide to all aspects of biblical study: the nature and purpose of the Bible; how biblical writers wrote; the making of both Old and New Testaments; the making of the Apocrypha; what was left out and what kept in the Bible and why; and how the Bible has been shaped by and continues to shape religion, culture and politics. Completely revised and updated - and considerably extended