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Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Material -- Introduction -- 1 Gendered Subjectivity and Representing Interiority -- 2 Political Interpretations of Desire -- 3 Male Audience and Authorship: Projecting Desire and Longing onto the Female Figure -- 4 The Female Audience: Modeling Idealized Femininity -- Conclusion: Interiority and the Value of Connection -- Works Cited -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	In Song Dynasty Figures of Longing and Desire , Lara Blanchard analyzes images of women in painting and poetry of China's middle imperial period, focusing on works that represent female figures as preoccupied with romance. She discusses examples of visual and literary culture in regard to their authorship and audience, examining the role of interiority in constructions of gender, exploring the rhetorical functions of romantic images, and considering connections between subjectivity and representation. The paintings in particular have sometimes been interpreted as simple representations of the daily lives of women, or as straightforward artifacts of heteroerotic desire;

Blanchard proposes that such works could additionally be interpreted as political allegories, representations of the artist's or patron's interiorities, or models of idealized femininity.
