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Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Introduction -- Comedy and Tragedy in Athens -- Satyr Drama and the Cyclops: Where Tragedy and Comedy Meet -- The Acharnians and the Paradox of the City -- The Wasps: Comic Heroes/Tragic Heroes -- Oedipus Tyrannos and the Knights: Oracles, Divine and Human -- Persians, Peace, and Birds: God and Man in Wartime -- Women at the Thesmophoria and Frogs: Aristophanes on Tragedy and Comedy -- Conclusion: The Dionysia's Many Voices -- Synopses -- Glossary -- Bibliography -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	Despite the many studies of Greek comedy and tragedy separately, scholarship has generally neglected the relation of the two. And yet the genres developed together, were performed together, and influenced each other to the extent of becoming polar opposites. In <i>Aristophanes and His Tragic Muse</i> , Stephanie Nelson considers this opposition through an analysis of how the genres developed, by looking at the tragic and comic elements in satyr drama, and by contrasting specific Aristophanes plays with tragedies on similar themes, such as the individual, the polis, and the gods. The study reveals that tragedy's focus on necessity and a quest for meaning complements a neglected but critical element in Athenian comedy: its interest in freedom, and the ambivalence of its incompatible visions of reality.