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Nota di contenuto	Intro -- Acknowledgments -- Contents -- About the Author -- Chronology -- Chapter 1: Introduction -- References -- Chapter 2: Less Than Angels: Discontents, Detachment, and Discontinuities -- Anthropological Perspectives -- Continuity in the Suburbs -- Continuous Fragmentation and the Case of Tom Mallow -- Catherine and Deirdre: Recovered Continuities -- The Neglected Riches of Home -- References -- Chapter 3: A Glass of Blessings: Crossing the Boundaries Between Elegance and Excellence -- Pym and the World of Male Partnerships -- Social and Ecclesiastical Expansions -- Elegance and Its Discontents -- Rocky Napier and Spring-Time Discontents -- Piers Longridge: The False Promise of Another Spring -- Mary Beamish and Expanding Roles -- Renewed Continuity in Rodney and Wilmet -- References -- Chapter 4: No Fond Return of Love: Unlikely Continuities -- Unlikely Continuities and Persistent Patterns -- Dulcie and Viola: Surprising Actions and Comic Endings -- References -- Chapter 5: Struggle for Continuity During the "Wilderness Years" (1963-1977) -- Personal and Professional Lives Intertwined -- The Shifting Literary World -- Continuous Effort -- "How Can One Be Different?": The Drabble Experiment-An Academic Question -- A Narrowed Role Considered -- References -- Chapter 6: An Unsuitable Attachment: A Redefinition -- Marriage as Continuity -- The New Man -- Class and Color in Draft -- The Limits of Revision -- References --

Chapter 7: The Sweet Dove Died: Discontinued Friendships and the Arrested Life -- Richard Roberts -- The Original Vision -- Philip Larkin as Editor -- Before the Canvas Was Cut -- The Sweet Dove Died: The Arrested Life -- References -- Chapter 8: Life Goes On: Continued Sustenance -- Robert Liddell and Greece -- Robert Smith -- Hazel Holt -- "Editor Pym" at the International African Institute -- Posthumous Continuity. Philip Larkin -- The Marketplace, Modernism, and Pym's Readership -- The Pym Influence -- References -- Chapter 9: Strands of Change and Quartet in Autumn: The Limits of Continuity -- Church and City -- Failing Health -- Village Life in Retirement -- Quartet in Autumn: The Limits of Continuity -- Towards an Austere Style -- Narrowed Lives -- Contentment and Isolation -- Death and Continuity -- Artistic Continuity -- References -- Chapter 10: Continuity Regained: Village Life and Rediscovery -- Rediscovery -- The Booker Prize and Other Accolades -- Countryside and Church: Continuity Re-established in Oxfordshire -- References -- Chapter 11: A Few Green Leaves: Looking to the Future -- Notes on Village Life, Past and Present -- A Few Green Leaves -- Documenting Change -- Documenting Discontents -- The Elusive Past and Persistent Present -- Looking to the Future -- References -- Chapter 12: Epilogue: Last Respects -- References -- Index.

Sommario/riassunto

The Testing of Barbara Pym explores the life and literary contributions of British novelist Barbara Pym, focusing on her experiences during the 'Wilderness Years' in London and the later rewards of her career. Authored by Emily Stockard, this work completes a two-volume study that delves into Pym's personal and professional challenges. The book also examines Pym's perseverance and her influence on modern literature, providing insights into the themes and continuity in her novels. Stockard's research is supported by presentations and materials from the Barbara Pym Society, offering a comprehensive view of Pym's legacy. This scholarly work is aimed at literary academics and enthusiasts of mid-century British literature.
