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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Introduction, or Dark Matter -- 1. Tongues Untied: Confession and Its Secrets -- 2. Tongues Wagging: Gossip, Women, and Indiscreet Secrets -- 3. Men's Ways of Knowing: The Secret of Secrets and the Secrets of Women -- 4. Covert Women and Their Mysteries -- 5. Sodomy and Other Female Perversions -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index -- Acknowledgments
Sommario/riassunto	Selected by Choice magazine as an Outstanding Academic BookIn Covert Operations, Karma Lochrie brings the categories and cultural meanings of secrecy in the Middle Ages out into the open. Isolating five broad areas—confession, women's gossip, medieval science and

medicine, marriage and the law, and sodomitic discourse—Lochrie examines various types of secrecy and the literary texts in which they are played out. She reads texts as central to Middle English studies as the "Parson's Tale," the "Miller's Tale," the *Secretum Secretorum*, and *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* as well as a broad range of less familiar works, including a gynecological treatise and a little-known fifteenth-century parody in which gossip and confession become one. As she does so she reveals a great deal about the medieval past—and perhaps just as much about the early development of the concealments that shape the present day.

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