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Nota di contenuto	Introduction: 'Sense, sight and song' -- 'The world of words': Johnson, Locke, and Congregationalism -- Parleying, troping, and fragmenting: Pauline, Paracelsus, and Sordello -- 'Why need I speak, if you can read my thought?': the unacted drama, 'My Last Duchess', and "'Childe Roland'" -- 'I kept time to the wondrous chime': Rhyme's Reason, 'Love among the ruins', The Inn Album, and 'Of Pacchiarotto' -- 'Adjust real vision to right language': the idealist goal of language, 'Parleying with Christopher Smart', 'Abt Vogler', and 'Saul' -- 'For how else know e save by worth of word?': The Ring and the Book -- 'One thing has many sides': Browning's 'transcripts', Balaustion's Adventure and Aristophanes' Apology -- 'Do you say this, or I?': Browning's 'parleyings', La Saisiaz, Red Cotton Night-Cap Country, and Fifine at the Fair.

"What are the influences that shaped the language used by one of the nineteenth century's greatest writers? How did his religious beliefs, the books he owned, the paintings and music he loved, affect almost sixty years' output of poems, plays, essays, and letters?" "This book attempts to define Browning's understanding of the nature and use of words and syntax by considering not only a full range of texts from the 1833 Pauline to the 1889 Asolando, but also the ideas important to Browning, the historical context in which he lived, and the other artistic passions that played a part in his life."--Jacket
